

## Data Center Efficiency Workshop

Laboratories for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
Providence, RI

September 19, 2011

Presented by:  
Dale Sartor, P.E.  
Geoffrey C. Bell, P.E.

(Version: 8/23/11)



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



This Presentation is Available for download  
at:

<http://datacenterworkshop.lbl.gov/>

## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

### Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
- Data center environmental conditions – Bell

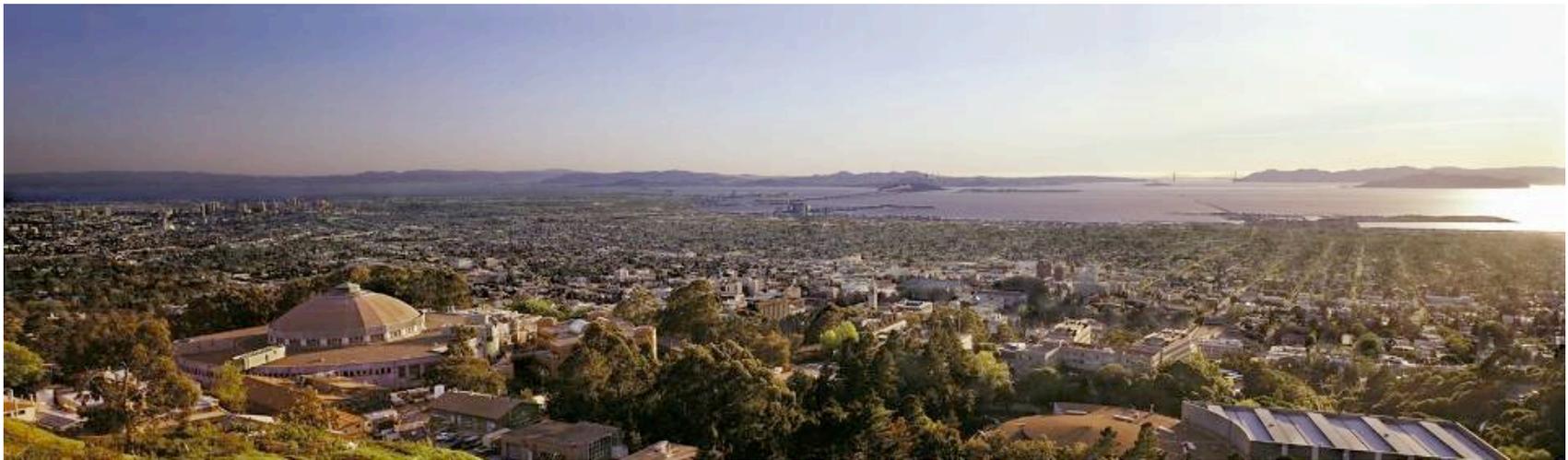
## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
- Cooling systems – Bell

### Break

- Electrical systems - Sartor
- Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor



## Data Center Efficiency Workshop: Introduction

Presented by:  
Dale Sartor, P.E.



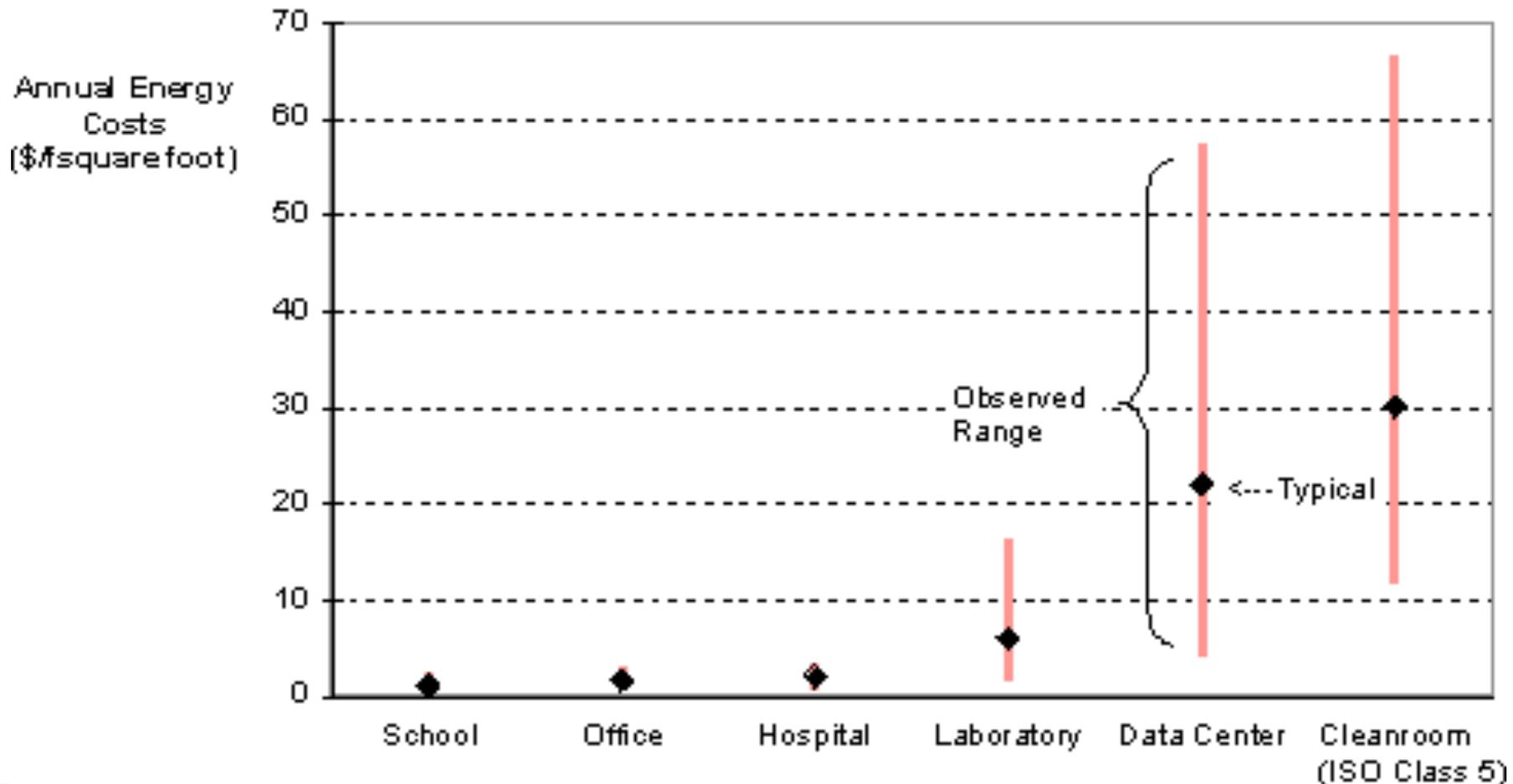
U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



# Workshop Learning Objectives

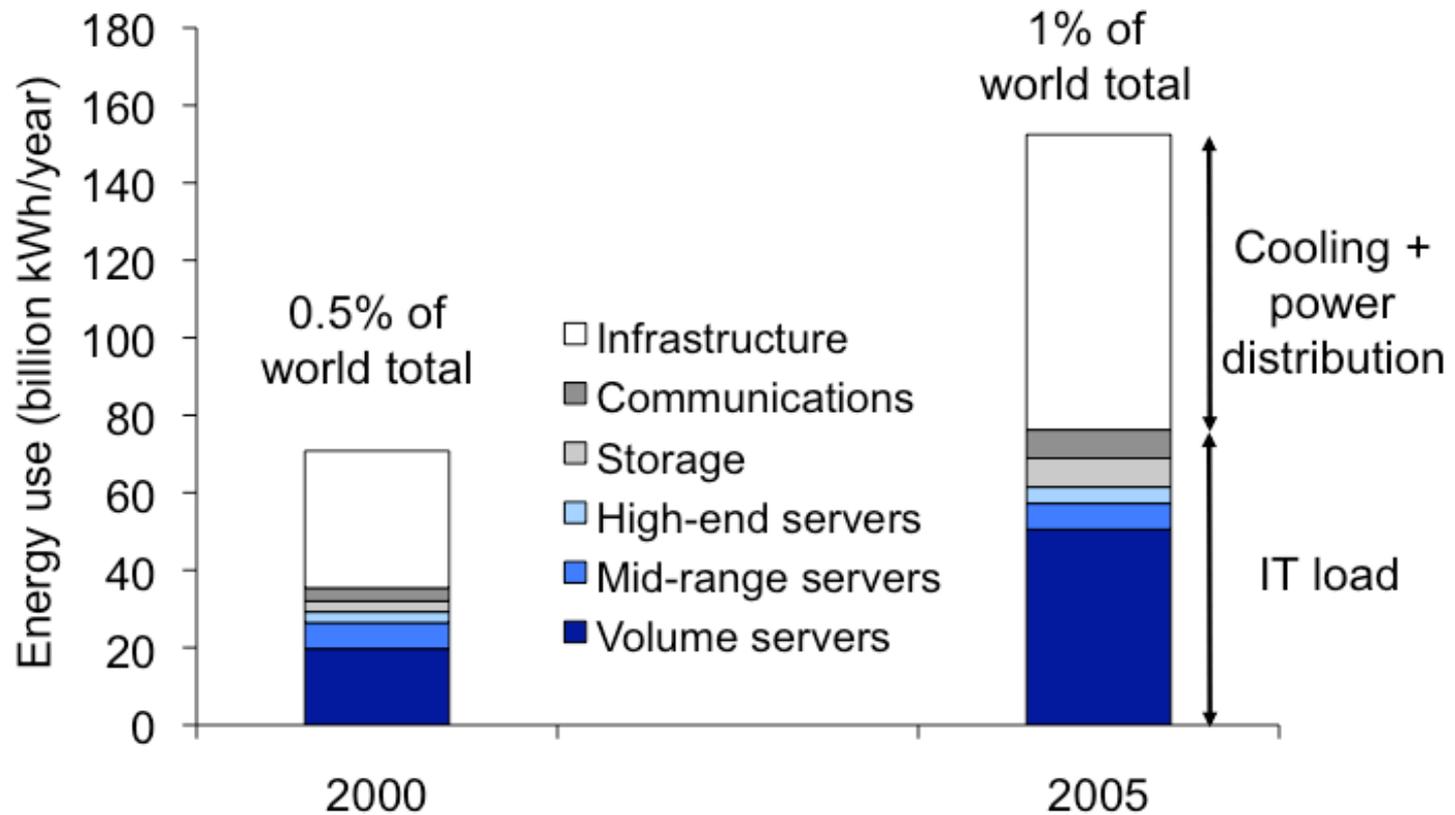
- **Provide background on data center efficiency**
- **Raise awareness of efficiency opportunities**
- **Review of Federal Data Center Programs and resources**
- **Develop common understanding between IT and Facility staff**
- **Group interaction for common issues and solutions**

## Comparative Energy Costs High-Tech Facilities vs. Standard Buildings



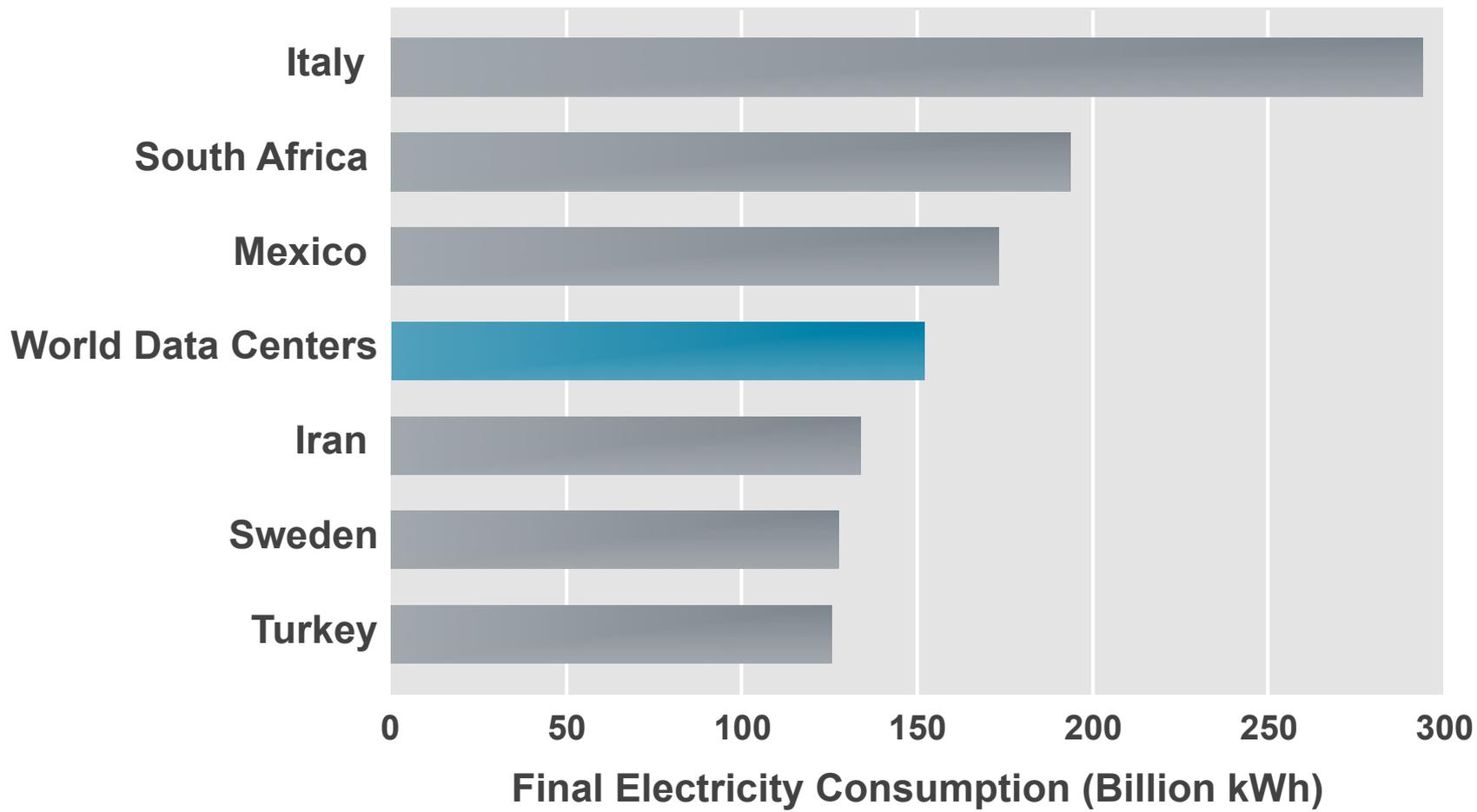
- Data centers are energy intensive facilities
  - Server racks now designed for more than 25+ kW
  - Surging demand for data storage
  - Typical facility ~ 1MW, can be > 20 MW
  - 1.5% of US Electricity consumption
  - Projected to double in next 5 years
- Significant data center building boom
  - Power and cooling constraints in existing facilities

# World Data Center Electricity Use - 2000 and 2005



Source: Koomey 2008

# How much is 152B kWh?

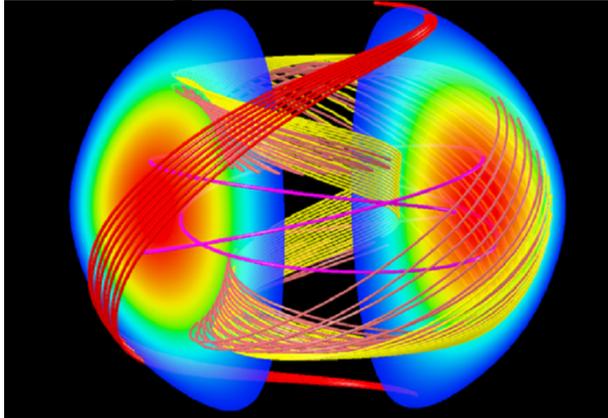


Source for country data in 2005: International Energy Agency, *World Energy Balances* (2007 edition)

- From 2000 – 2006, computing performance increased 25x but energy efficiency only 8x
  - Amount of power consumed per \$1,000 of servers purchased has increased 4x
- Cost of electricity and supporting infrastructure now surpassing capital cost of IT equipment
- Perverse incentives -- IT and facilities costs separate

Source: The Uptime Institute, 2007

# LBNL operates large systems along with legacy systems

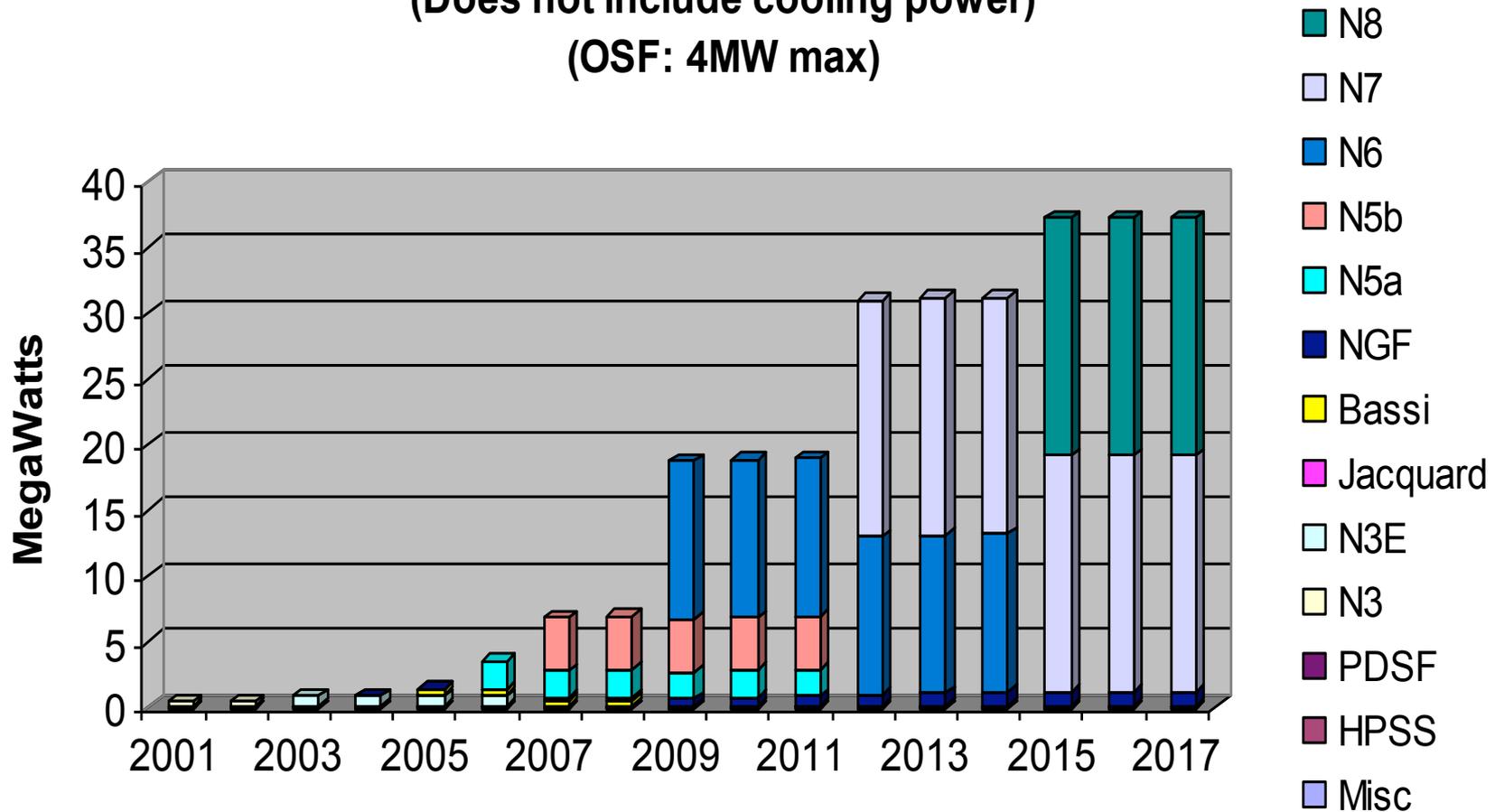


We also research energy efficiency opportunity and work on various deployment programs

# LBNL Feels the Pain!

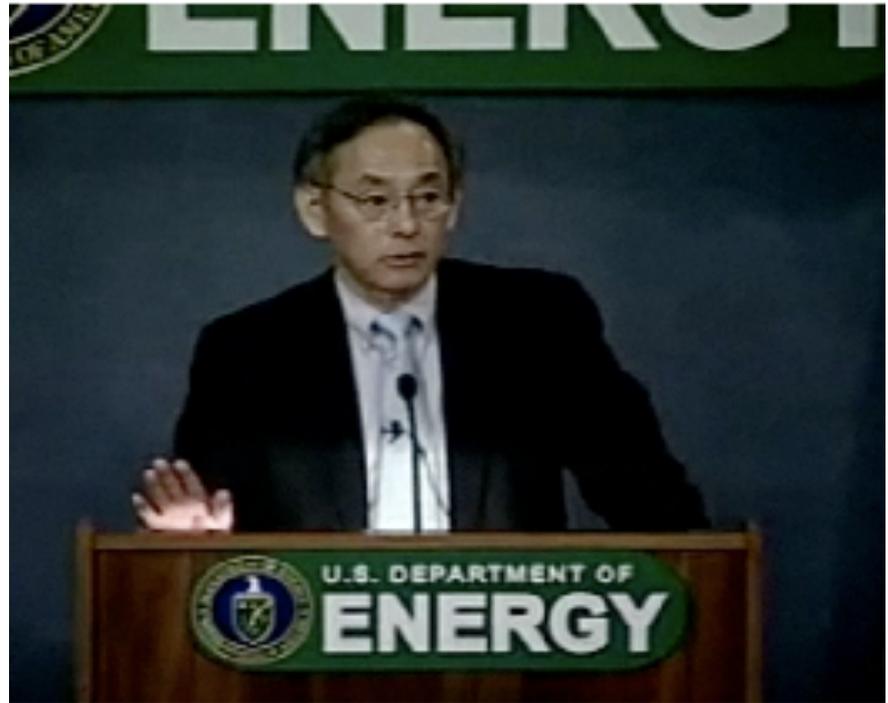


## NERSC Computer Systems Power (Does not include cooling power) (OSF: 4MW max)



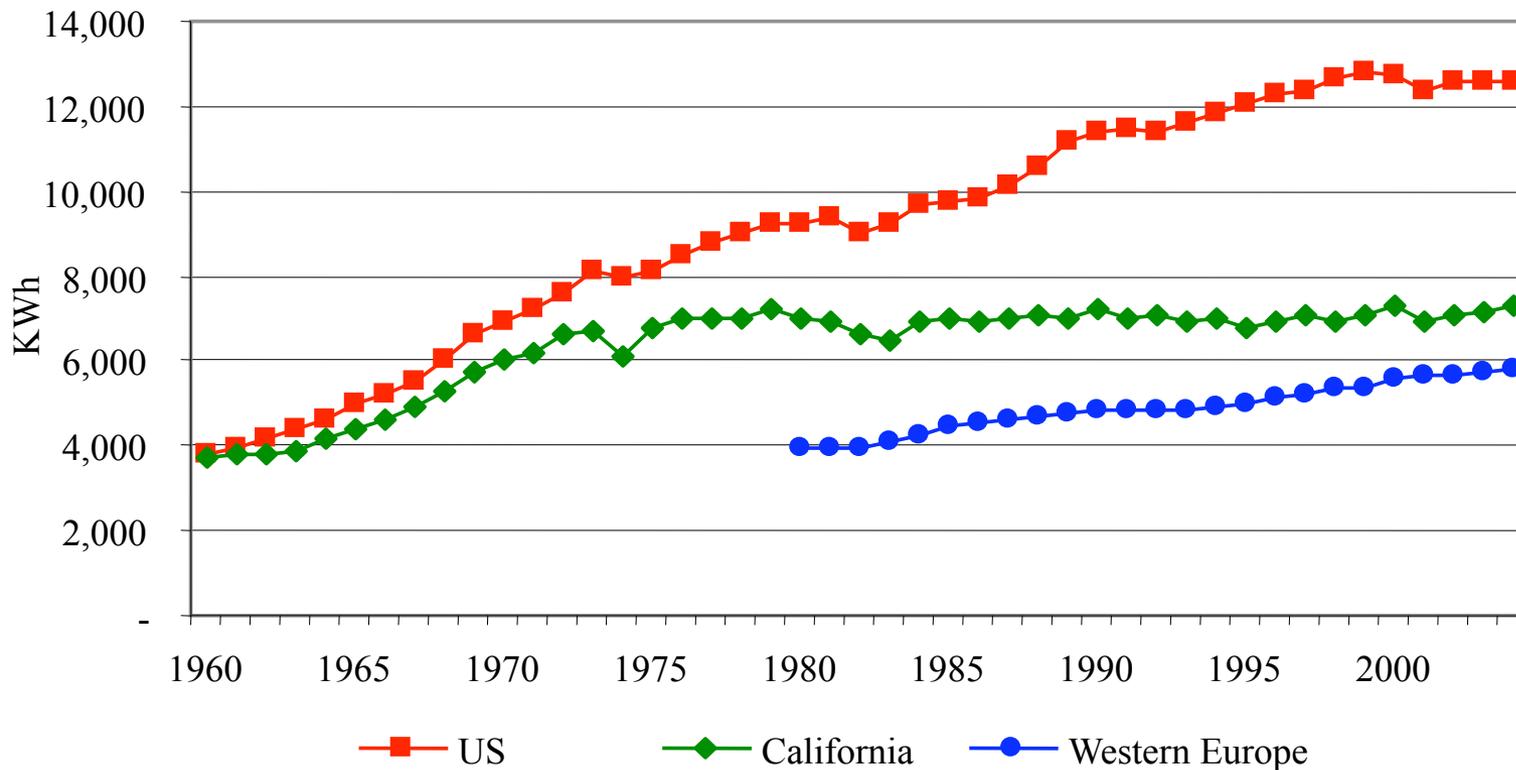
# First, a Few Words from our Leader

- “We’re certainly in a mess right now.”
- “The environment... is the reason I joined the Department of Energy.”
- “We simply cannot fail.”

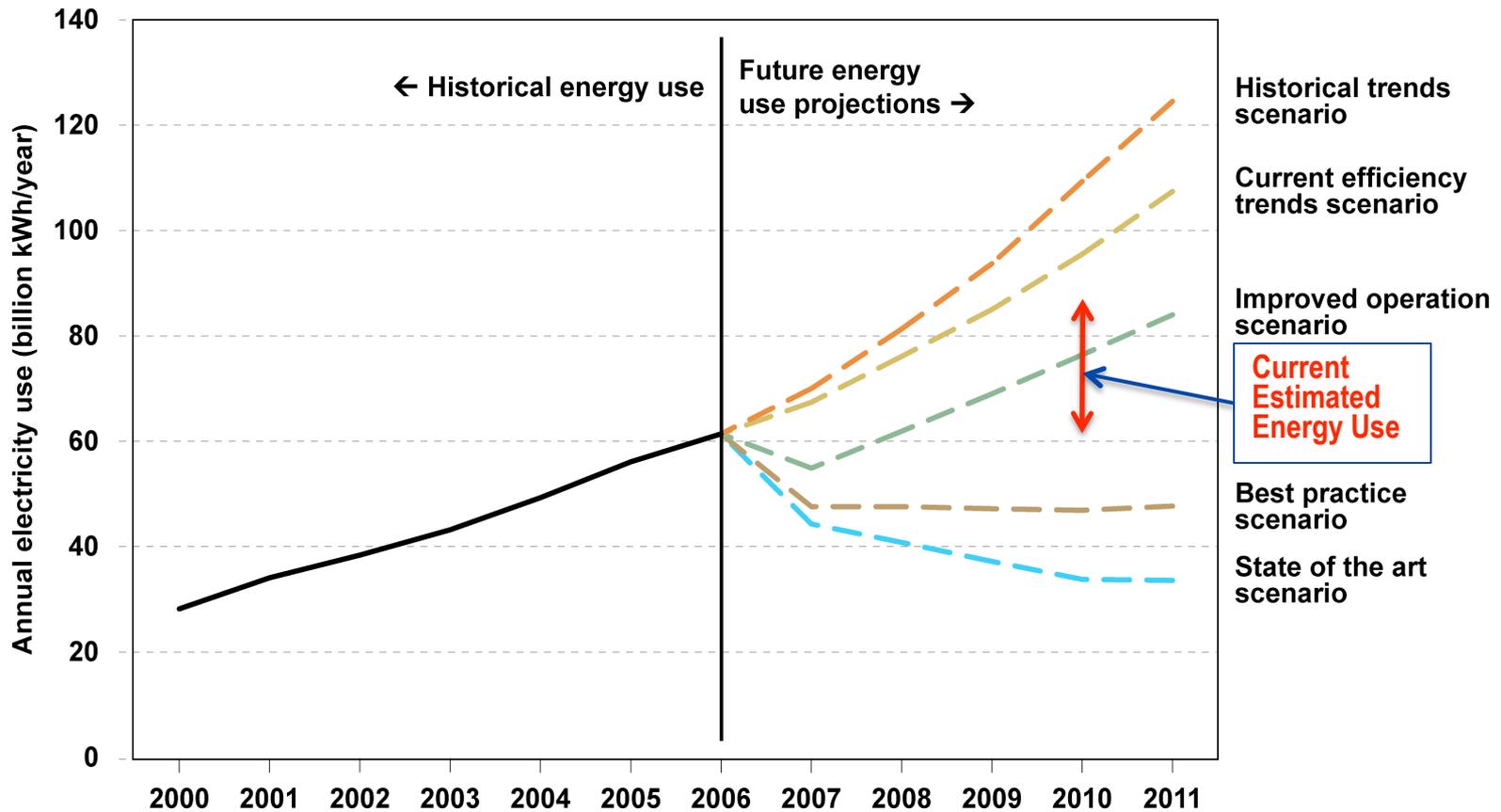


Source: Secretary Chu's  
address to DOE staff  
1/22/09

Energy efficiency programs have helped keep per capita electricity consumption in California flat over the past 30 years



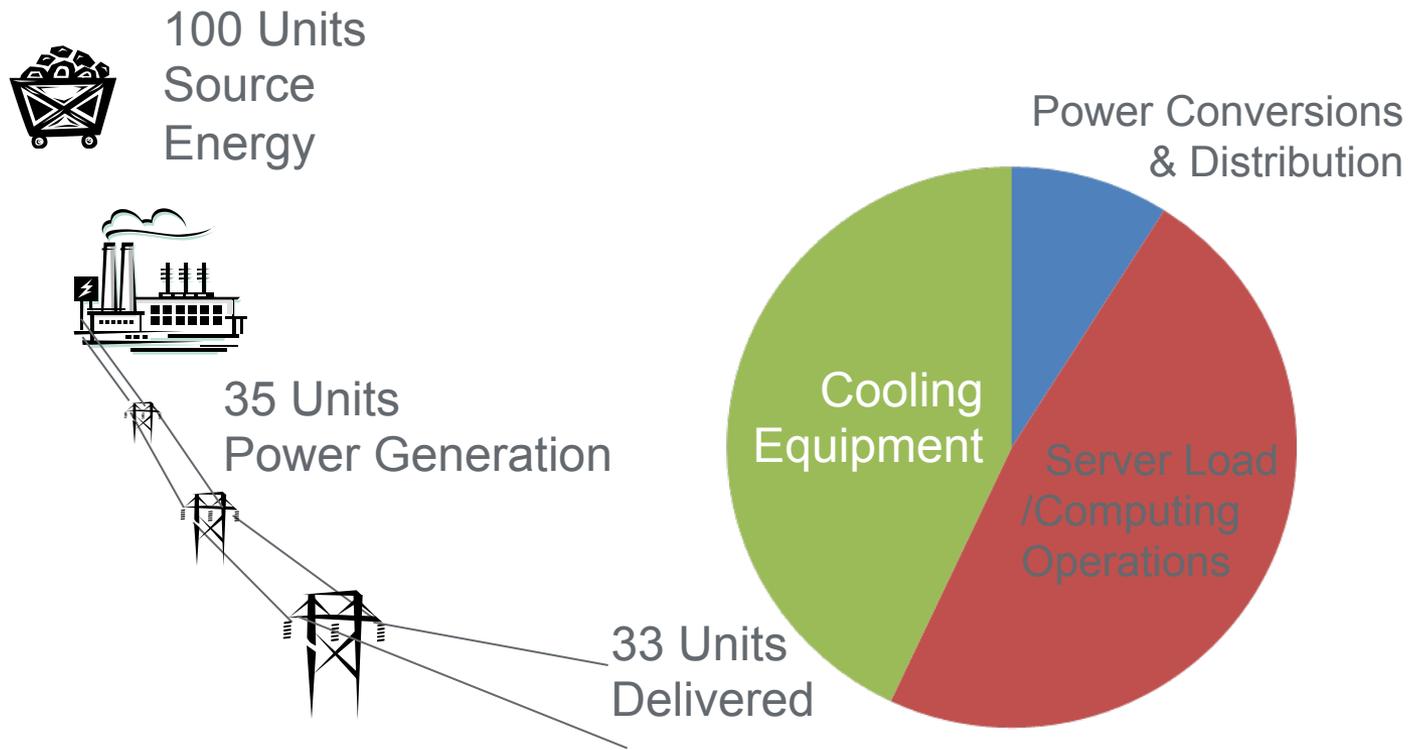
# Projected Data Center Energy Use



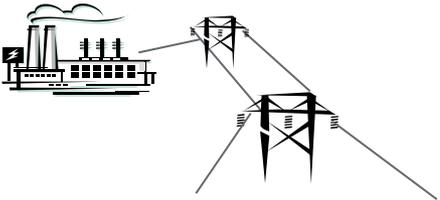
# Data Center Energy Efficiency = 15% (or less)

$$\text{Energy Efficiency} = \text{Useful computation} / \text{Total Source Energy}$$

## Typical Data Center Energy End Use



# Energy Efficiency Opportunities



Power Conversion & Distribution

- Server innovation
- Virtualization
- High efficiency power supplies
- Load management

- Better air management
- Move to liquid cooling
- Optimized chilled-water plants
- Use of free cooling
- Heat recovery

Server Load/ Computing Operations

Cooling Equipment

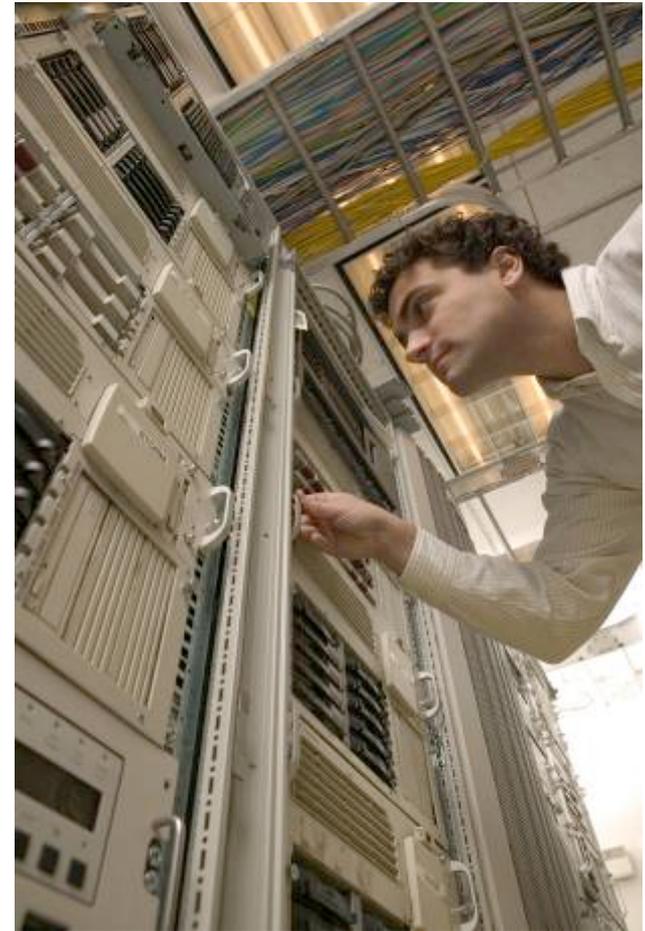
- High voltage distribution
- High efficiency UPS systems
- Efficient redundancy strategies
- Use of DC power

Alternative Power Generation

- On-site generation Including fuel cells and renewable sources
- CHP applications (Waste heat for cooling)

# Potential Benefits of Data Center Energy Efficiency

- 20-40% savings typical
- Aggressive strategies can yield 50+% savings
- Extend life and capacity of infrastructures
- But is mine good or bad?



## Conventional Approach

- Data centers need to be cool and controlled to tight humidity ranges
- Data centers need raised floors for cold air distribution
- Data centers require highly redundant building infrastructure

## Need Holistic Approach

- IT and Facilities Partnership

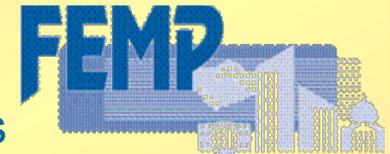
## Industrial Technologies Program

- Tool suite & metrics for baselining
- Training
- Qualified specialists
- Case studies
- Recognition of high energy savers
- R&D - technology development



## Federal Energy Management Program

- Workshops
- Federal case studies
- Federal policy guidance
- Information exchange & outreach
- Access to financing opportunities
- Technical assistance



## GSA

- Workshops
- Quick Start Efficiency Guide
- Technical Assistance



## EPA

- Metrics
- Server performance rating & ENERGY STAR label
- Data center benchmarking



## Industry

- Tools
- Metrics
- Training
- Best practice information
- Best-in-Class guidelines
- IT work productivity standard



## Department of Energy (DOE) Data Center Initiatives

*Develops tools and resources to make data centers more efficient throughout the United States*

### Participants:

- DOE Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP)
- DOE Sustainability Performance Office (SPO)
- DOE Industrial Technologies Program's (ITP) *Save Energy Now*
- In partnership with ENERGY STAR, GSA, The Green Grid, ASHRAE, and other industry partnerships



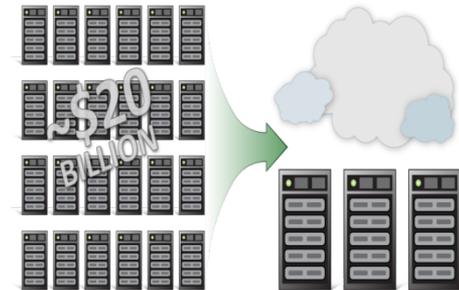
## FEMP MISSION

*FEMP Facilitates the Federal Government's implementation of sound, cost-effective energy management & investment practices to enhance the nation's energy security & environmental stewardship.*



## Federal agencies have been instructed to...

- Reduce facility energy intensity
- Increase renewable energy use
- Reduce water consumption intensity
- Purchase EPEAT and FEMP-designated products
- Meter and benchmark facilities
- Consolidate data center facilities wherever possible



## FEMP in partnership with GSA and other agencies supports data center efficiency in the Federal sector:

### • Technical Assistance

- Implementation of DC Pro Tool Suite for benchmarking and assessments
- Project planning and early design
- Technology demonstration projects

### • Training

- Webinars
- Workshops

### • Development of tools and resources

### • Access to funding sources

- Energy savings performance contracts
- Utility energy savings contracts

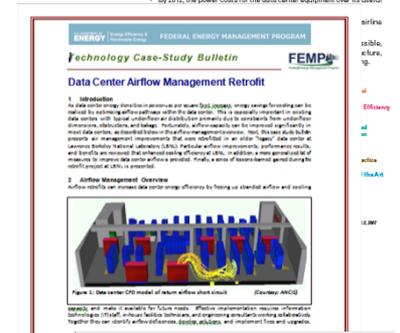
### • Federal Energy Management Program awards

#### Quick Start Guide to Increase Data Center Energy Efficiency

#### A Problem That You Can Fix

Data Center energy efficiency is derived from addressing BOTH your hardware equipment AND your infrastructure. Less than half the power used by a typical data center powers its IT equipment. Where does the other half go? To support infrastructure including cooling systems, UPS inefficiencies, power distribution losses and lighting. Why does this matter?

- By 2012, the power costs for the data center equipment cover its useful



- Best Practices Guide
- Benchmarking Guide
- Data Center Programming Guide
- Technology Case Study Bulletins
- Procurement Specifications
- Report Templates
- Process Manuals
- Quick-Start Guide

## Quick Start Guide to *Increase* Data Center Energy Efficiency

### A Problem That You Can Fix

Data Center energy efficiency is derived from addressing **BOTH** your hardware equipment **AND** your infrastructure.

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## Best Practices Guide for Energy-Efficient Data Center Design

January 2010



**FEMP**  
Federal Energy Management Program

Prepared by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. NREL is operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC.

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## Technology Case-Study Bulletin

### Data Center Airflow Management Retrofit

**1 Introduction**  
As data center energy densities increase, power-use per square foot increases, energy savings for cooling can be realized by optimizing airflow patterns within the data center. This is especially important in cooling data centers with typical under-floor air distribution primarily due to constraints from under-floor dimensions, obstructions, and leakage. Fortunately, airflow efficiency can be improved significantly in most data centers, as described below in the airflow management overview. Note, this case study bulletin presents air management improvements that were successful in an older "legacy" data center at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). Particular airflow improvements, performance results, and benefits are reviewed that enhanced cooling efficiency at LBNL. In addition, a more generalized list of measures to improve data center airflow is provided. Finally, a series of lessons-learned gained during the retrofit project at LBNL is presented.

**2 Airflow Management Overview**  
Airflow retrofits can increase data center energy efficiency by fixing up identified airflow and cooling



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## Data Center Rack Cooling with Rear-door Heat Exchanger

### Technology Case-Study Bulletin



**Figure 1: Passive Rear Door Heat Exchanger installed at LBNL.**

As data center energy densities in power-use per square foot increase, energy savings for cooling can be realized by incorporating liquid-cooling devices instead of increasing airflow volume. This is especially important in a data center with a typical under-floor cooling system. An airflow-capacity limit will eventually be reached that is constrained, in part, by under-floor dimensions and obstructions.

**1 Introduction**  
Liquid-cooling devices were installed on server racks in a data center at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) in Figure 1. The passive-technology device removes heat generated by the servers from the airflow leaving the server rack. This heat is usually transferred to cooling water circulated from a central chiller plant. However at LBNL, the devices are connected to a treated water system that rejects the heat directly to a cooling tower through a plate-and-frame heat exchanger, thus easily eliminating chiller energy use to cool the associated servers. In addition to cooling with passive heat exchangers, similar results can be achieved with fan-assisted rear-door heat exchangers and refrigerant-cooled rear-door exchangers.

Server racks can also be cooled with competing technologies such as modular, overhead coolers, in-row coolers, and close-coupled coolers with dedicated containment enclosures.

**2 Technology Overview**  
The rear door heat exchanger (RDHX) devices reviewed in this case study are referred to as passive devices because they have no moving parts; however, they do require cooling water flow. A passive-style RDHX contributes to optimizing energy efficiency in a data center facility in several ways. First, once the device is installed, it does not directly require infrastructure electrical energy to operate. Second, RDHX devices can use less chiller energy since they perform well at warmer (higher) chilled water set-points. Third, depending on climate and piping arrangements, RDHX devices can eliminate chiller energy because they can use treated water from a plate-and-frame heat exchanger connected to a cooling tower. These inherent features of a RDHX help reduce energy use while minimizing maintenance costs.

**2.1 Basic operation**  
The RDHX device, which resembles an automobile radiator, is placed in the airflow outlet of a server rack.

During operation, hot server-rack airflow is forced through the RDHX device by the server fans. Heat is exchanged from the hot air to circulating water from a chiller or cooling tower. Thus, server-rack outlet air temperature is reduced before it is discharged into the data center.

**2.2 Technology Benefits**  
RDHX cooling devices can save energy and increase operational reliability in data centers because of straightforward installation, simple operation, and low maintenance. These features, combined with compactness, indirect evaporative cooling, make RDHX a viable technology in both new and retrofit data center designs. It may also help eliminate the complexity and cost of under-floor air distribution.

**Reduce Maintenance**  
Because passive RDHX devices have no moving parts, they require less maintenance compared to computer room air conditioning (CRAC) units. RDHX devices will require occasional cleaning of dust and lint from the air-side of the coils. RDHX performance also depends on proper water/maintenance.

**Reduce or Eliminate Chiller Operation**  
RDHX devices present an opportunity to save energy by either reducing or

## The Federal Partnership for Green Data Centers

- An Inter-Agency forum to exchange ideas, develop policy guidance & tools to improve data center performance

## High Performance Computing Working Group

- A forum for sharing information on best practices in scientific computing
- Includes members from the public and private sectors





## DOE's *SEN* program provides tools and resources to help data center owners and operators:

- **DC Pro Software Tool Suite**
  - Tools to define baseline energy use and identify energy-saving opportunities
- **Information products**
  - Manuals, case studies, and other resources to identify and reduce operating costs, and regain data center infrastructure capacity
- **End-user awareness training**
  - Workshops in conjunction with ASHRAE
- **Data Center Energy Practitioner (DCEP) certificate program**
  - Qualification of professionals to evaluate energy efficiency opportunities
- **Research, development, and demonstration of advanced technologies**



**Save**  
**ENERGY**  
**Now**

- *Products*
- DC Pro tool Suite (Assessment protocols and tools)
- Training curriculum
- Data center energy practitioner program
- Case studies
- Technology R&D and demonstrations

## *Market Delivery*

- 200 Energy Practitioners
  - Suppliers
  - Engineering firms
  - Utilities
- Associations and technical Organizations

## *Data Center Results*

- 10 billion kWh per year saved
- 3,000 people trained on tools and assessment protocols
- 1,500 data centers improve energy efficiency > 25%
- 200 data centers improve energy efficiency >50%

## High-Level On-Line Profiling and Tracking Tool

- Overall efficiency (Power Usage Effectiveness [PUE])
- End-use breakout
- Potential areas for energy efficiency improvement
- Overall energy use reduction potential

## In-Depth Assessment Tools → Savings

### Air Management

- Hot/cold separation
- Environmental conditions
- RCI and RTI

### Electrical Systems

- UPS
- PDU
- Transformers
- Lighting
- Standby gen.

### IT-Equipment

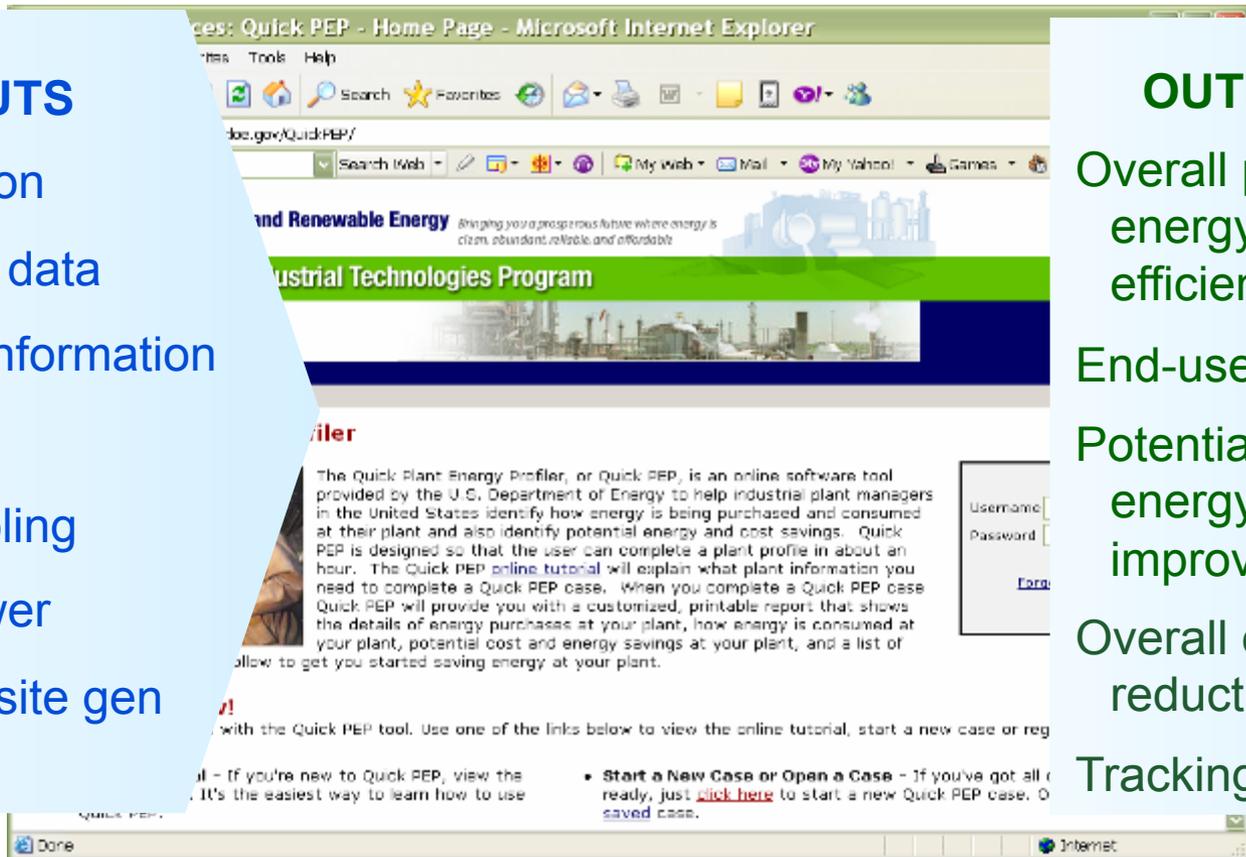
- Servers
- Storage & networking
- Software

### Cooling

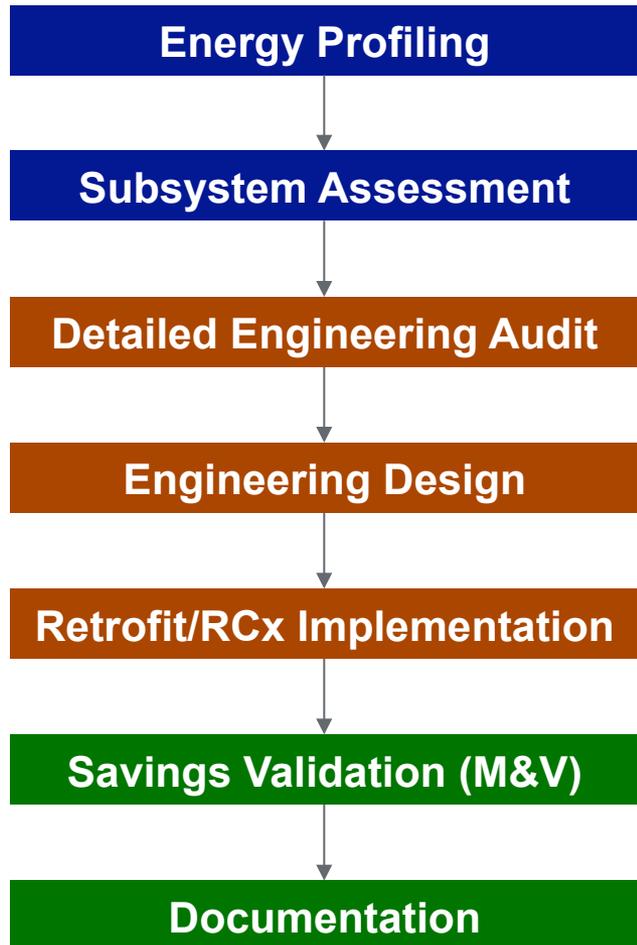
- Air handlers/conditioners
- Chillers, pumps, fans
- Free cooling



- INPUTS
- Description
- Utility bill data
- System information
- IT
- Cooling
- Power
- On-site gen



- OUTPUTS
- Overall picture of energy use and efficiency
- End-use breakout
- Potential areas for energy efficiency improvement
- Overall energy use reduction potential
- Tracking capability



- Assessments conducted by owners and engineering firms using DOE tools
- Tools provide uniform metrics and approach

- Audits, design and implementation by engineering firms and contractors

- M&V by site personnel and eng firms
- DOE tools used to document results, track performance improvements, and disseminate best practices

Partnering with industry DOE has developed a certificate process leading to energy practitioners qualified to evaluate energy consumption and efficiency opportunities in Data Centers.

## Key objective:

- Raise the standards of those involved in energy assessments.
- Provide repeatability and credibility of assessment recommendations.

## Target groups include:

- Data Center personnel (in-house experts)
- Consulting professionals (for-fee consultants)



# What is ENERGY STAR?

A voluntary public-private partnership program

- Buildings
- Products



- ENERGY STAR Datacenter Rating Tool
  - Build on existing ENERGY STAR platform with similar methodology (1-100 scale)
  - Usable for both stand-alone and data centers housed within another buildings
  - Assess performance at building level to explain how a building performs, not why it performs a certain way
  - ENERGY STAR label to data centers with a rating of 75+
  - Rating based on data center infrastructure efficiency
    - Ideal metric would be measure of useful work/energy use.
    - Industry still discussing how to define useful work.
- Energy STAR specification for servers
- Evaluating enterprise data storage, UPS, and networking equipment for Energy STAR product specs





[http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/data\\_center.html](http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/data_center.html)



<http://hightech.lbl.gov/datacenters.html>



[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?  
c=prod\\_development.server\\_efficiency](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=prod_development.server_efficiency)



<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/industry/datacenters/>

# Questions?



## Morning

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- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

### Break

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- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
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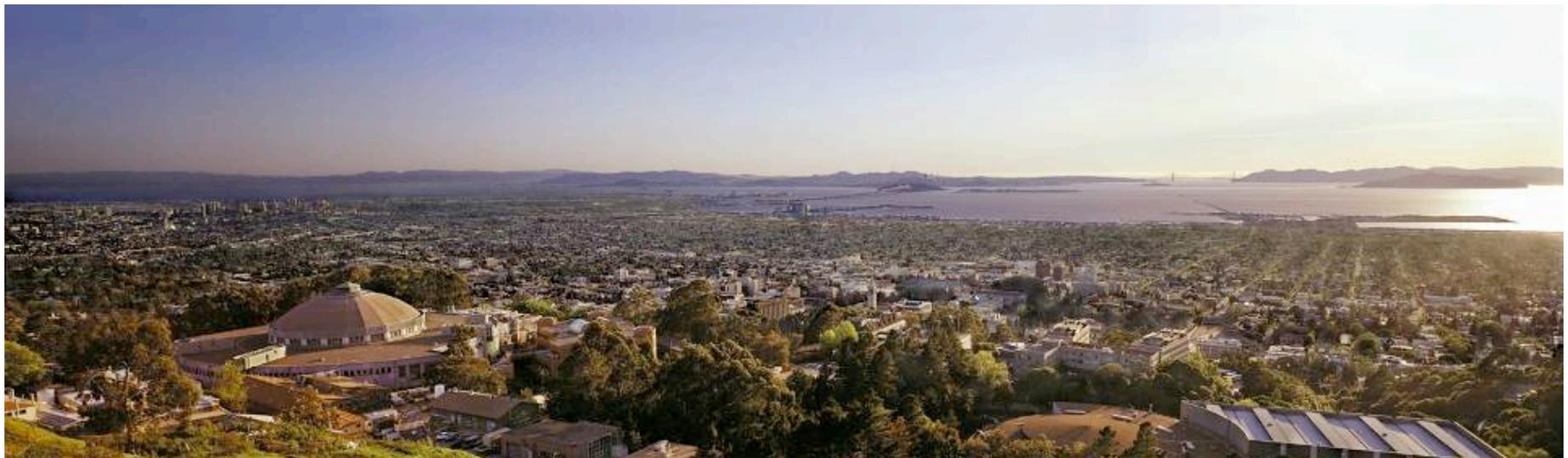
## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
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### Break

- Electrical systems - Sartor
- Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor



## Performance metrics and benchmarking

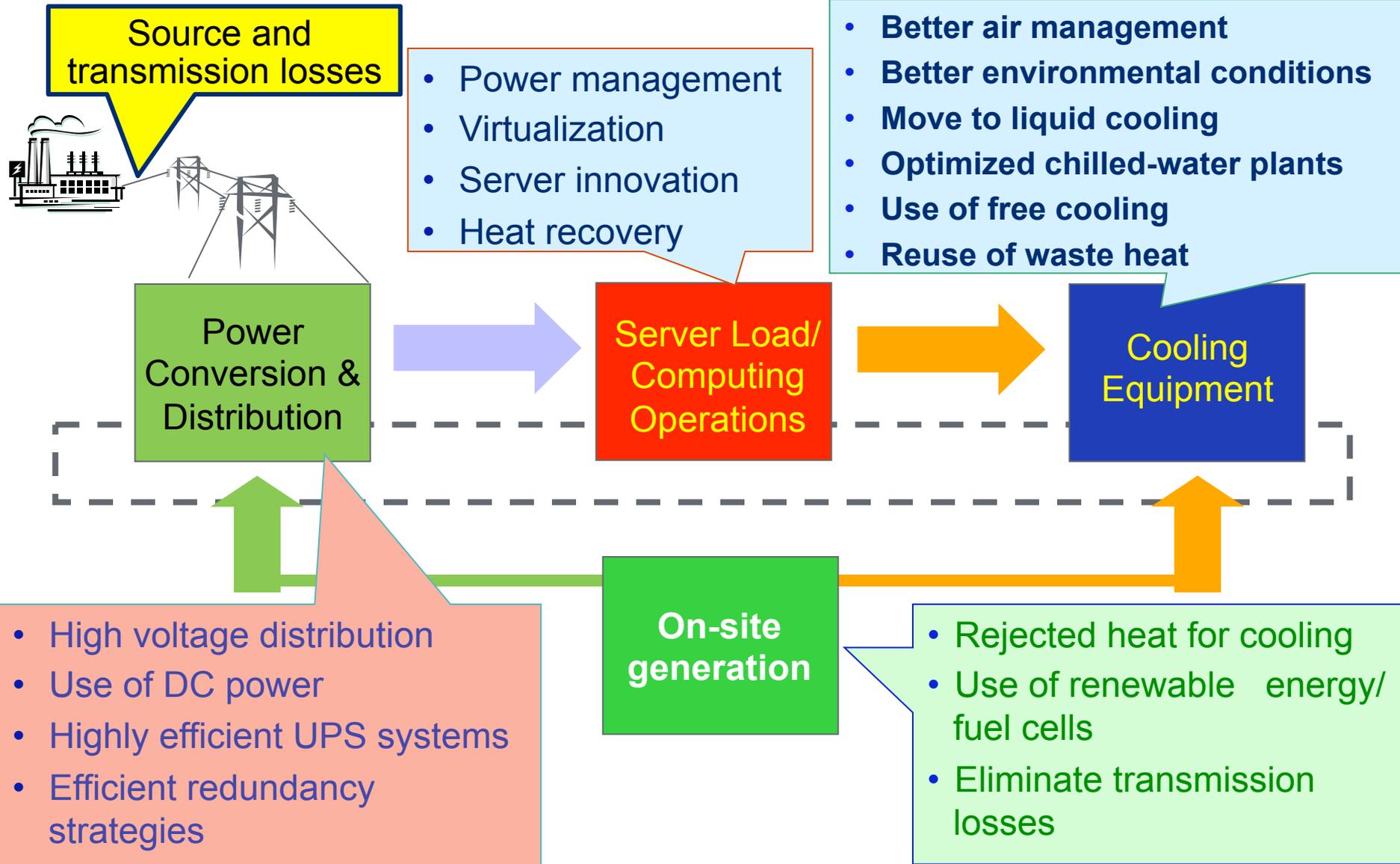
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# Efficiency opportunities are everywhere



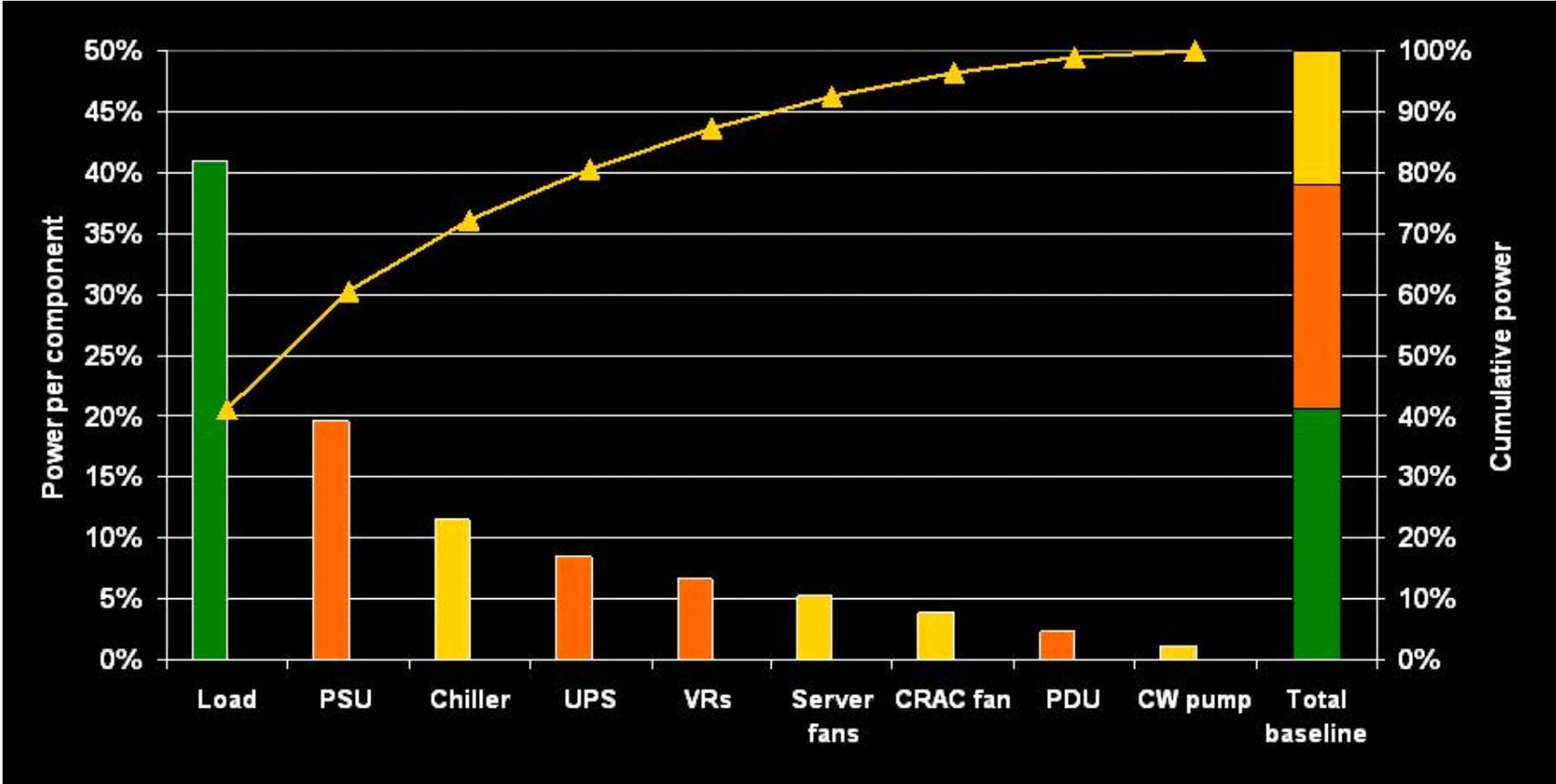
**Where does all of the energy go?**

- **Consider an energy monitoring and control system**

**How efficient is the data center?**

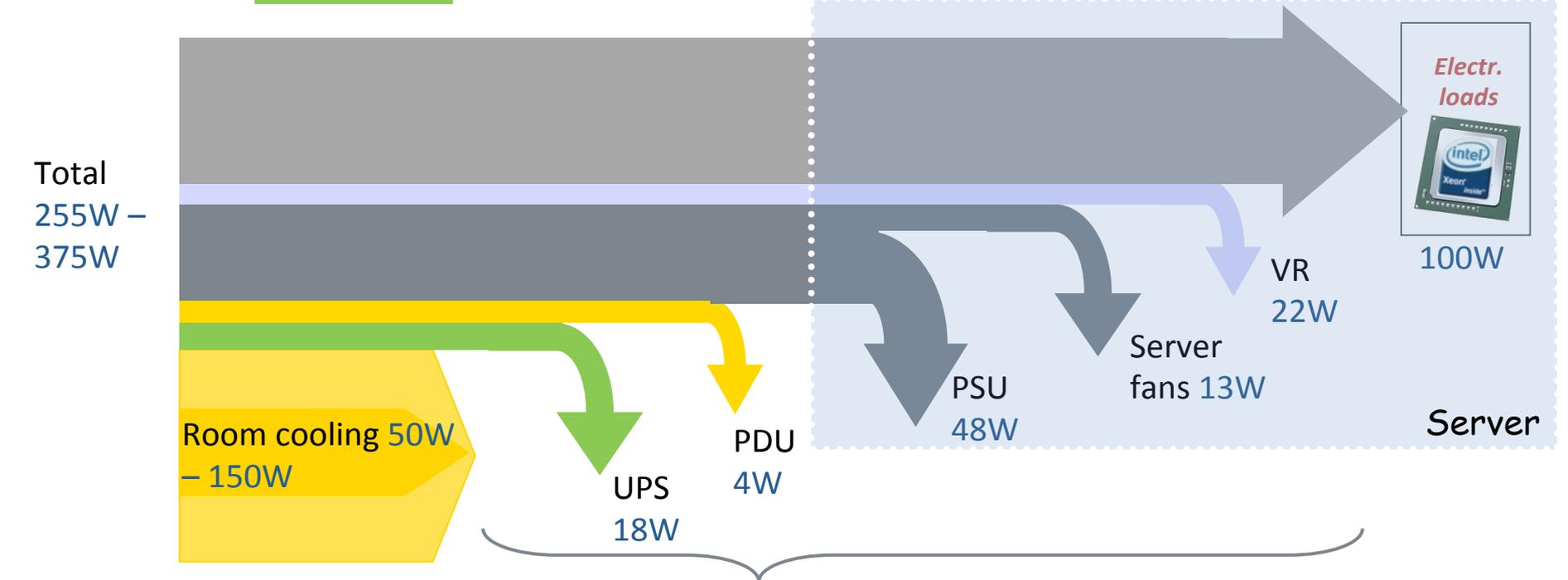
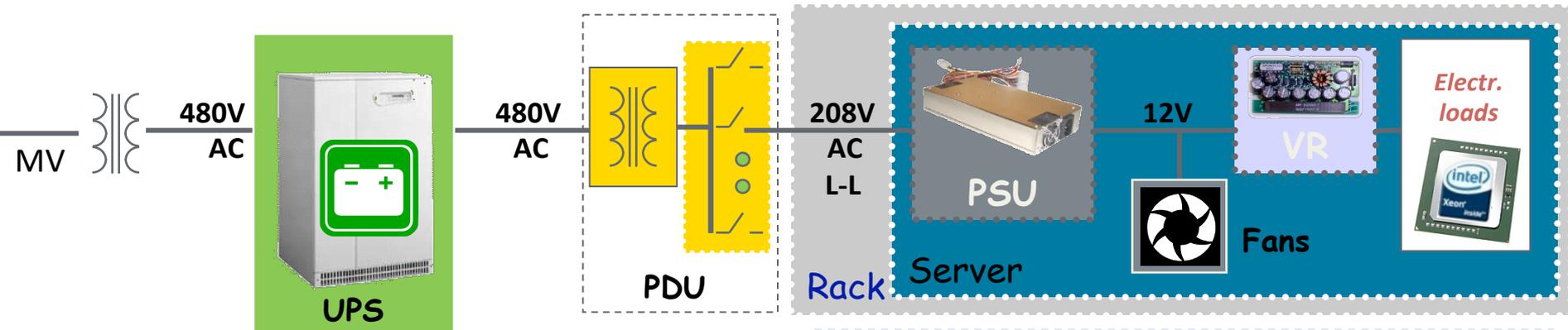
- **Metrics: PUE, HVAC, Electrical distribution**
- **Benchmarks**
- **The future: Computational Metrics (e.g. peak flops per Watt (PFPW); transactions/Watt) and Energy Reuse (ERF)**

# Electricity use in data centers



Courtesy of Michael Patterson, Intel Corporation

# Power distribution – in a typical US data center today

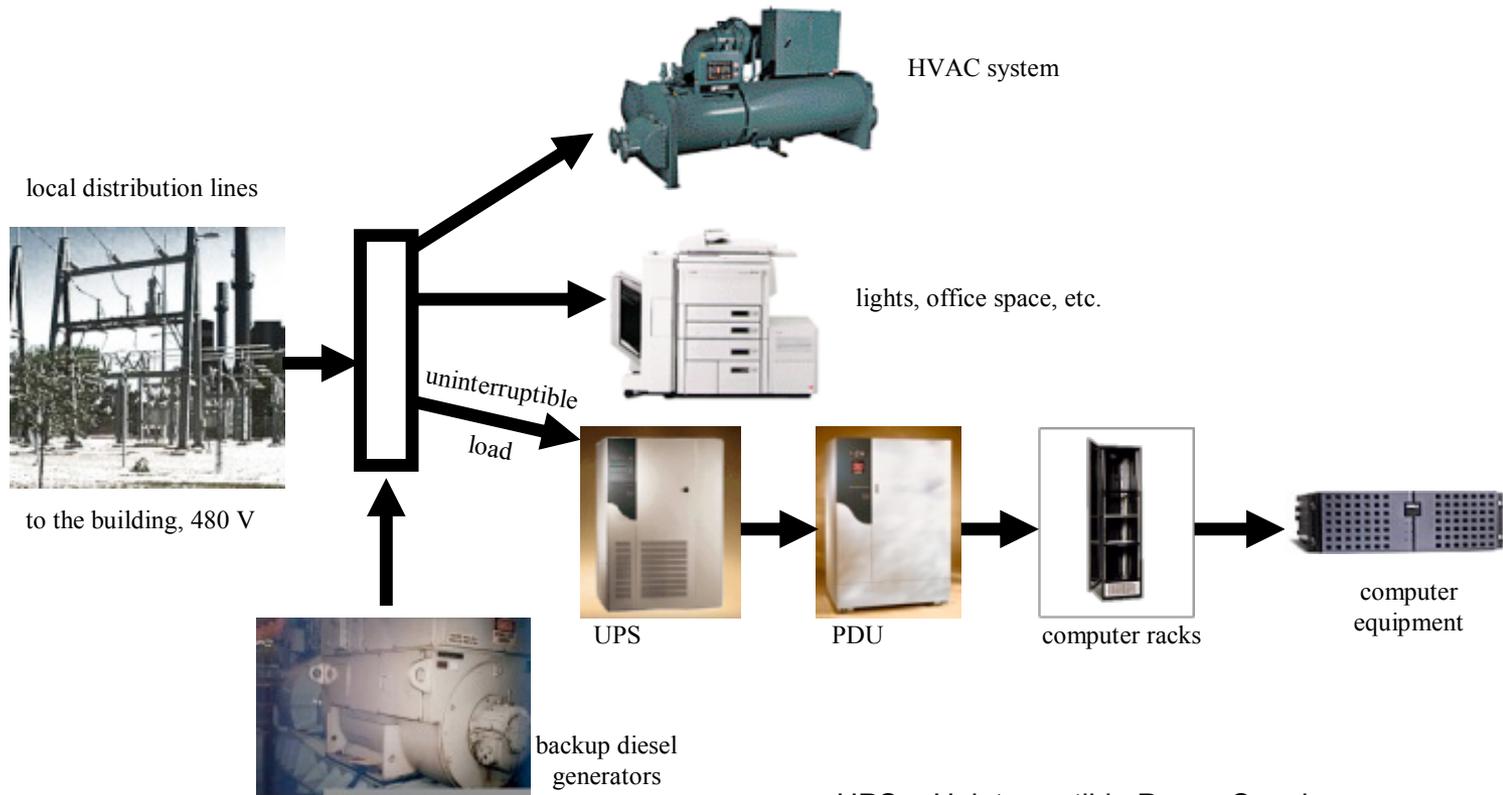


**~50% of power lost in power distribution**

- Energy benchmarking can allow comparison to peers and help identify best practices
- LBNL conducted studies of over 30 data centers:
  - Wide variation in performance
  - Identified best practices
- Can't manage what isn't measured



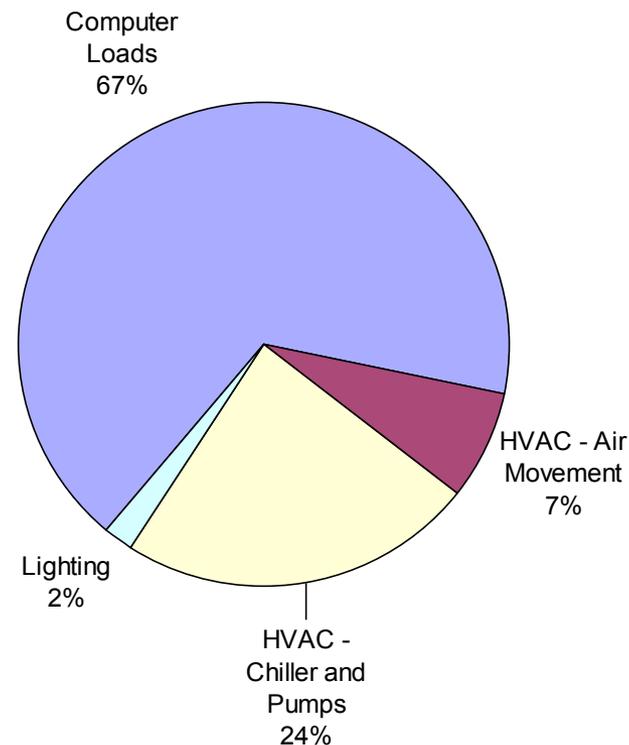
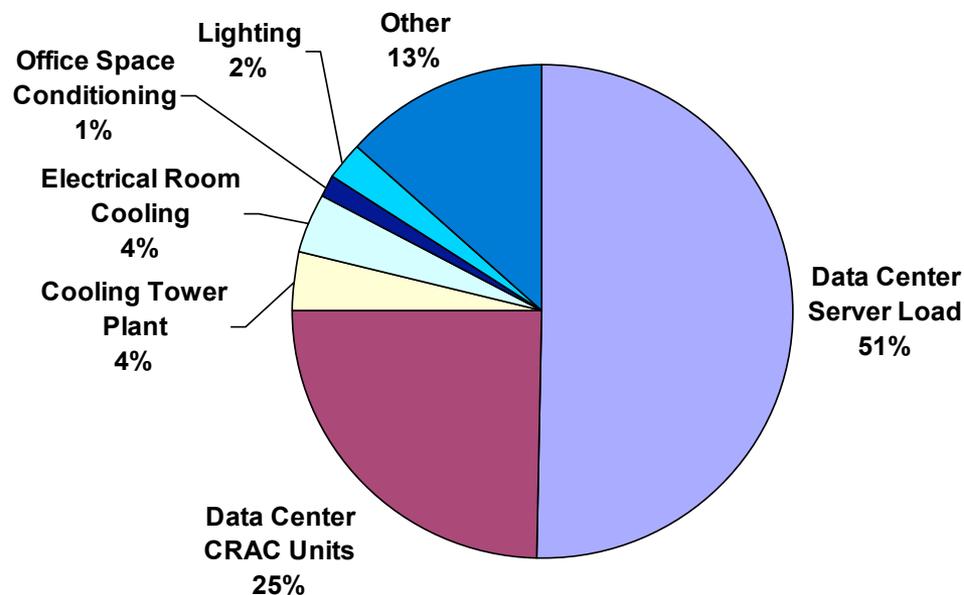
# Electricity Flows in Data Centers



UPS = Uninterruptible Power Supply  
PDU = Power Distribution Unit;

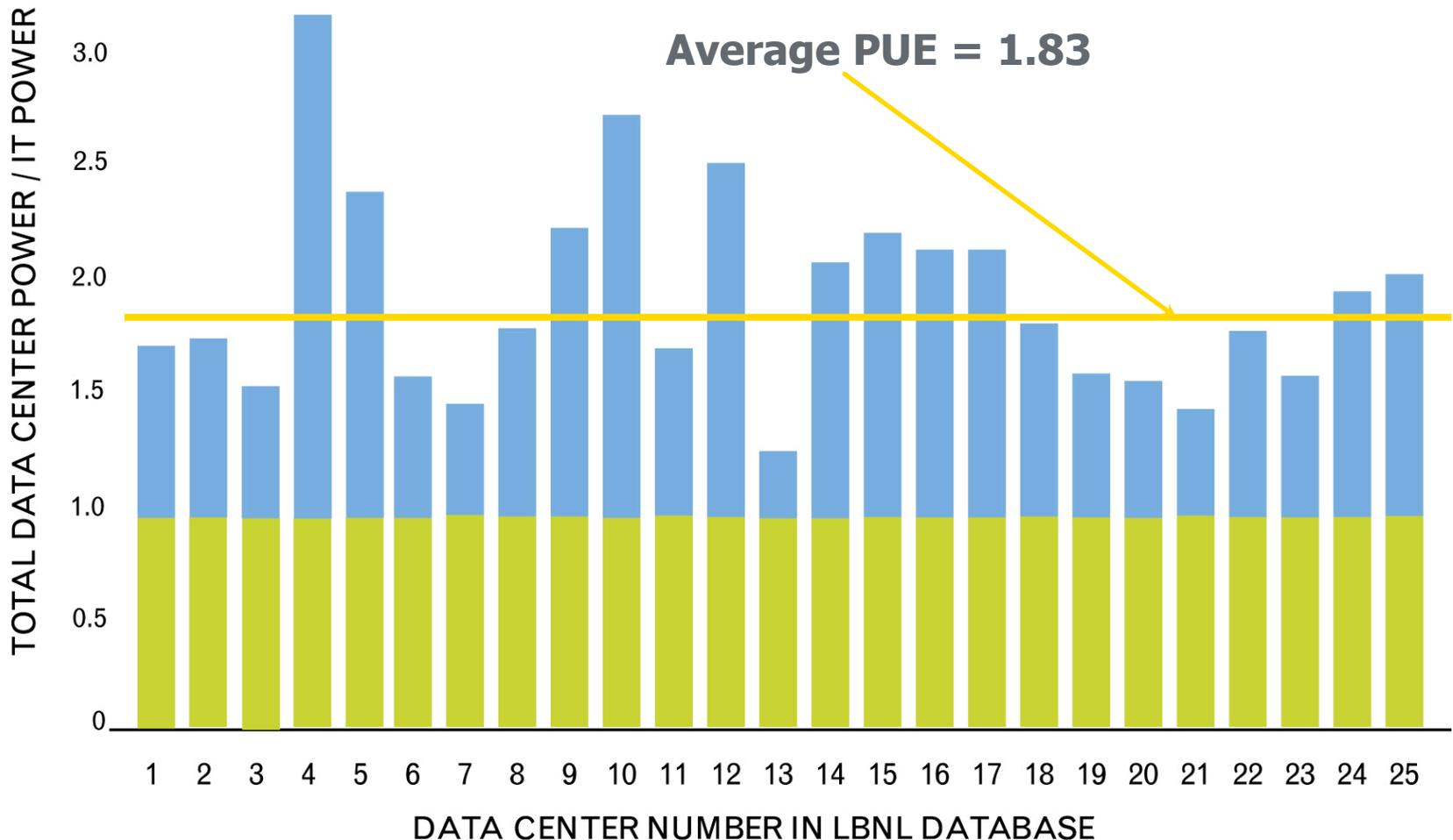
# Your Mileage Will Vary

The relative percentages of the energy doing computing varies considerably.

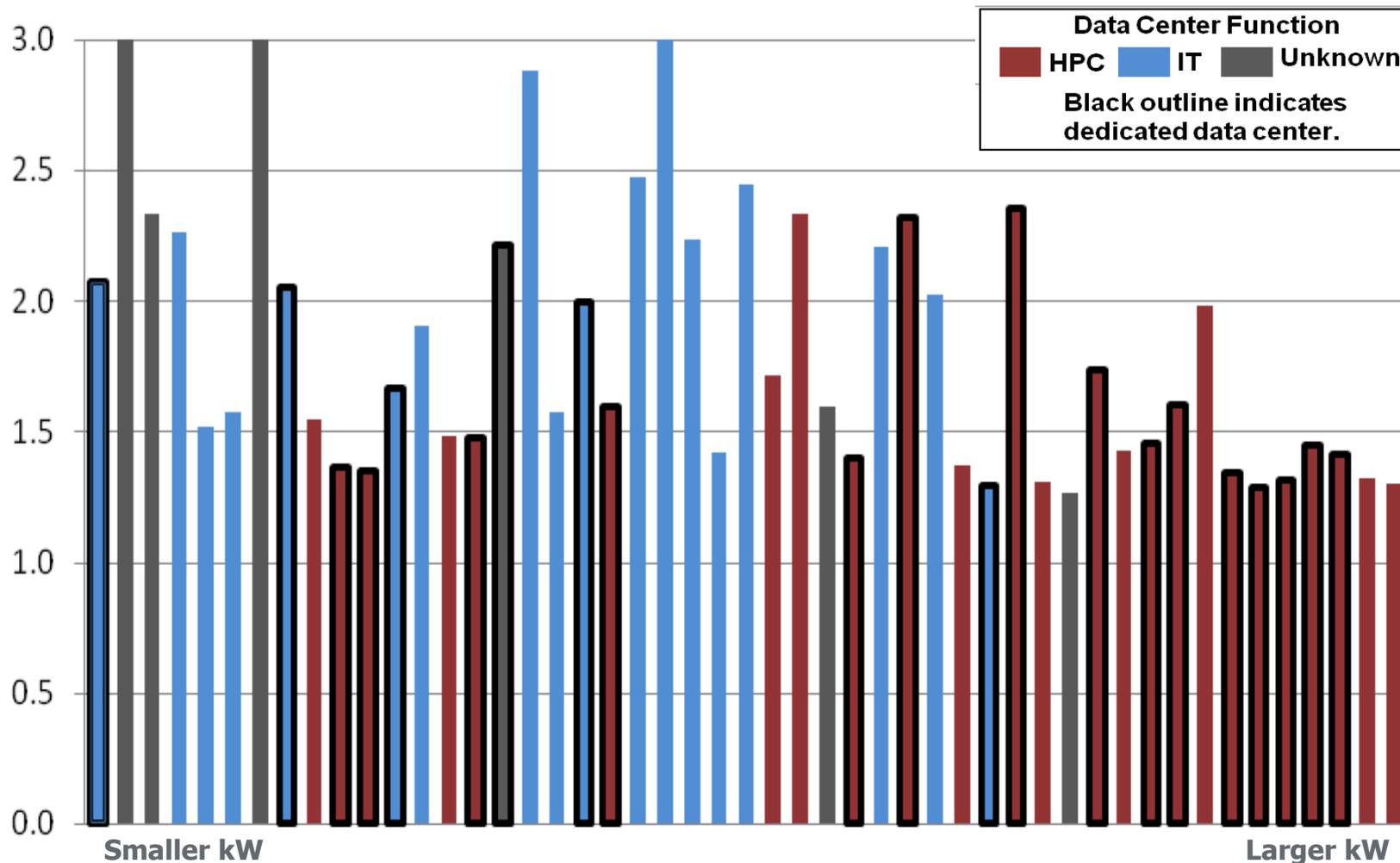


# Benchmarks obtained by LBNL

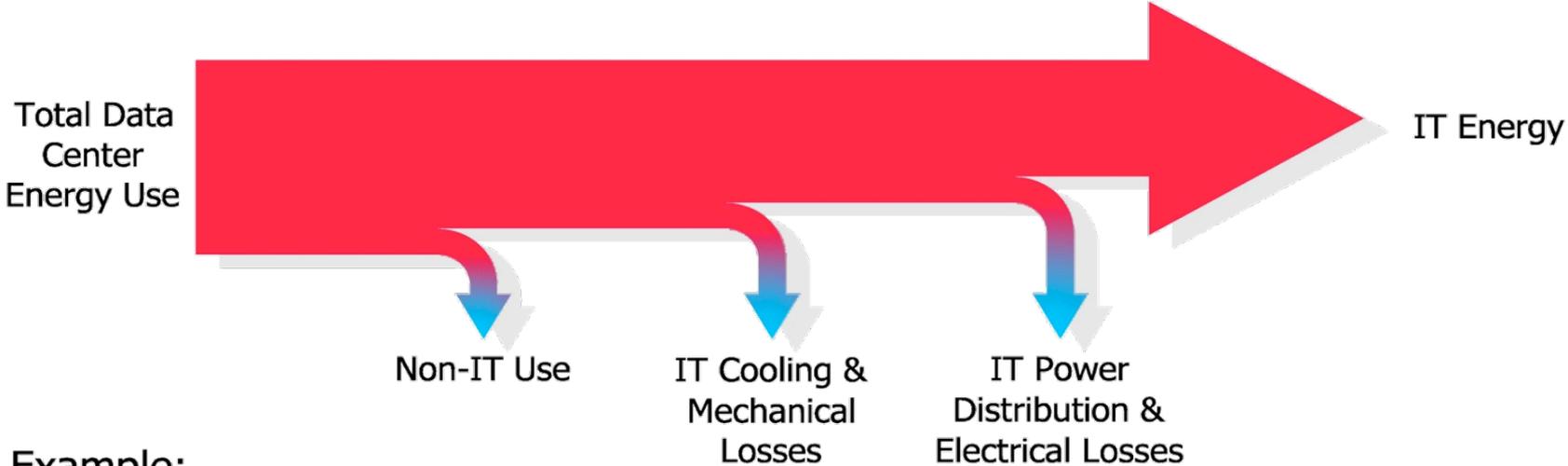
## High Level Metric: Power Utilization Effectiveness (PUE) = Total Power/IT Power



# PUE of DOE Data Centers



# PUE and Energy Savings

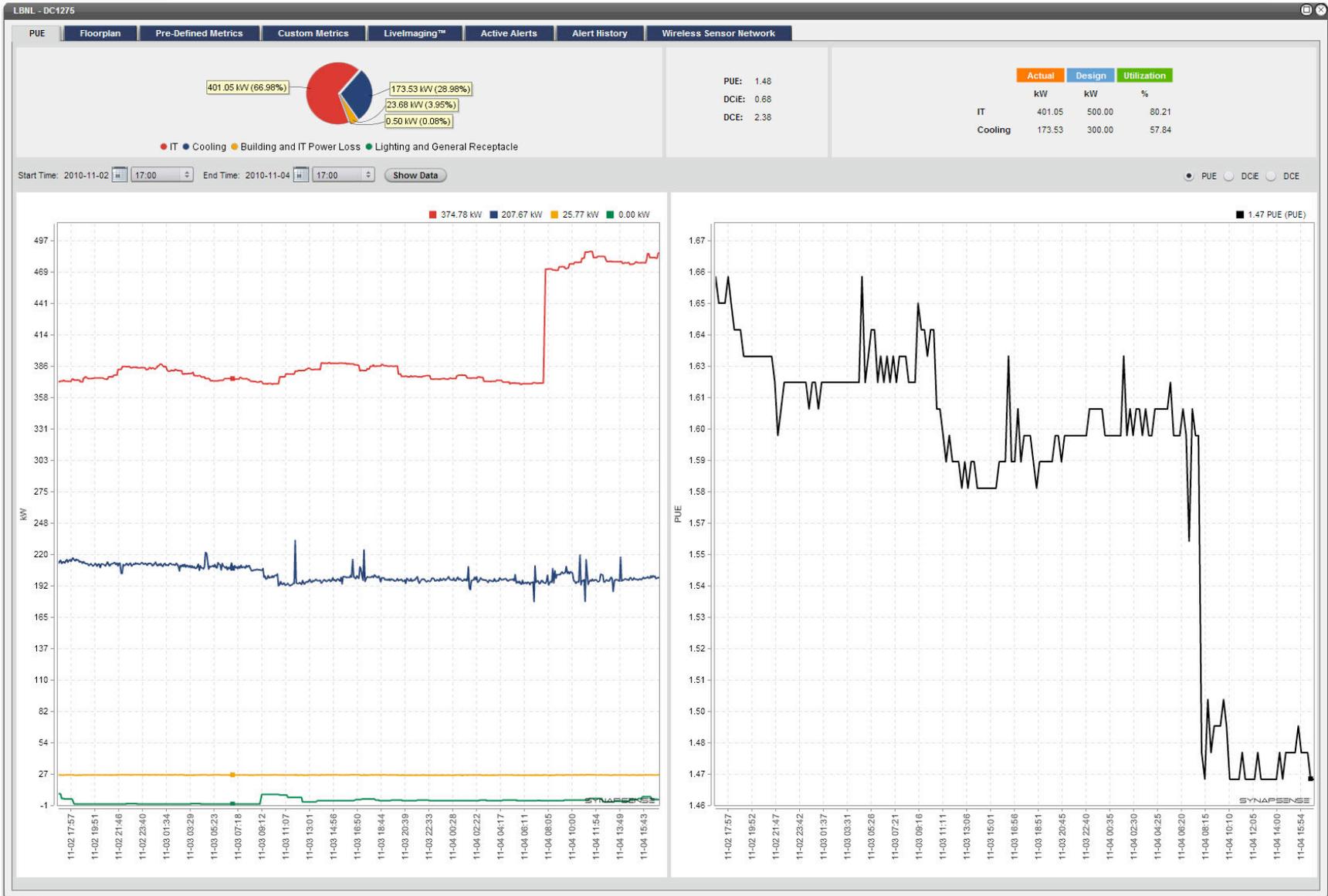


Example:



40% Energy Savings going from PUE = 2.0 to 1.2

# Real-time PUE Display



# PUE Calculation Diagram



- Watts per square foot, Watts per rack
- Power distribution: UPS efficiency, IT power supply efficiency
  - Uptime: IT Hardware Power Overhead Multiplier ( $IT_{ac}/IT_{dc}$ )
- HVAC
  - IT total/HVAC total
  - Fan watts/cfm
  - Pump watts/gpm
  - Chiller plant (or chiller or overall HVAC) kW/ton
- Air Management
  - Rack cooling index (fraction of IT within recommended temperature range)
  - Return temperature index  $(RAT-SAT)/IT\Delta T$
- Lighting watts/square foot

## Power Usage Effectiveness

$$PUE = \frac{\text{Total Facility Power}}{\text{IT Equipment Power}}$$

Standard	Good	Better
2.0	1.4	1.1

## Airflow Efficiency

$$\frac{\text{Total Fan Power (W)}}{\text{Total Fan Airflow (cfm)}}$$

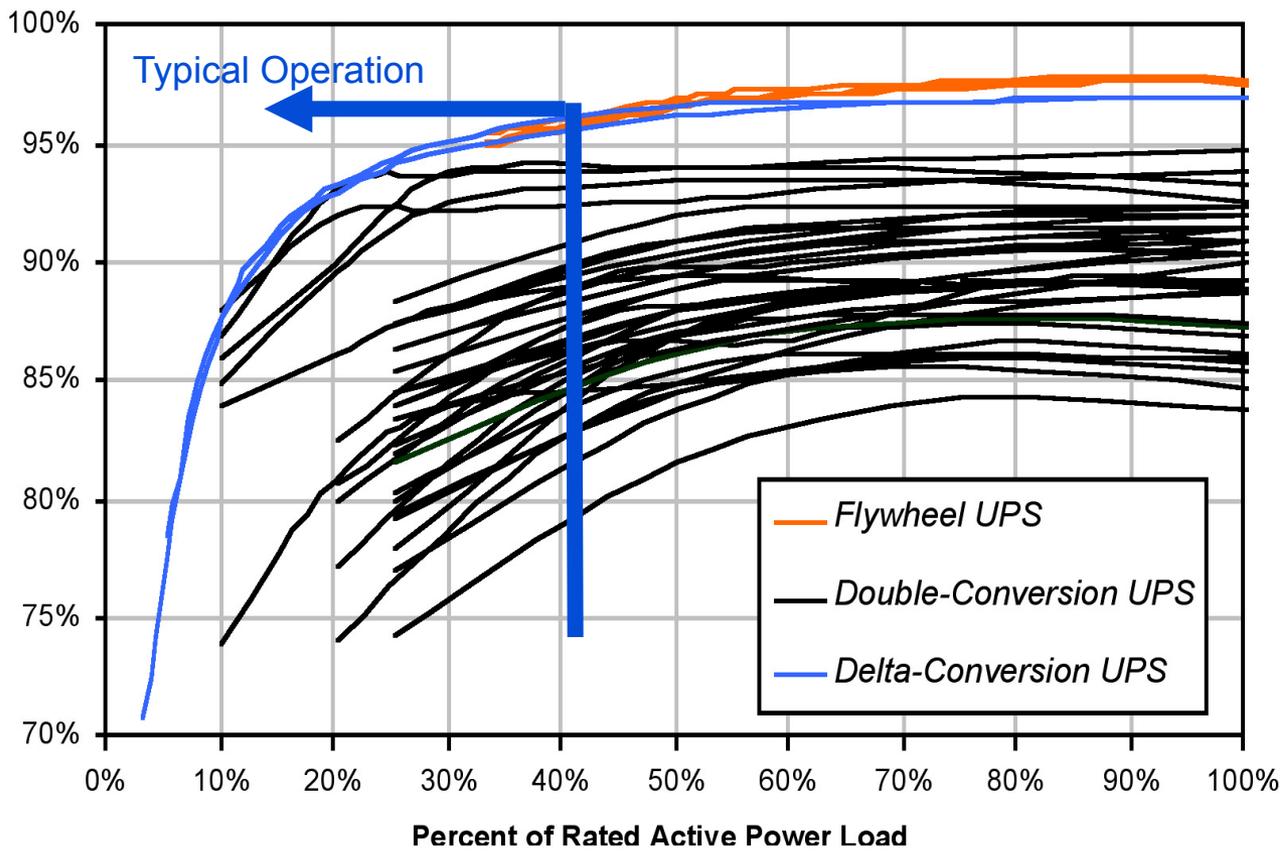
Standard	Good	Better
1.25W/cfm	0.75 W/cfm	0.5 kW/cfm

## Cooling System Efficiency

$$\frac{\text{Average Cooling System Power (kW)}}{\text{Average Cooling Load (ton)}}$$

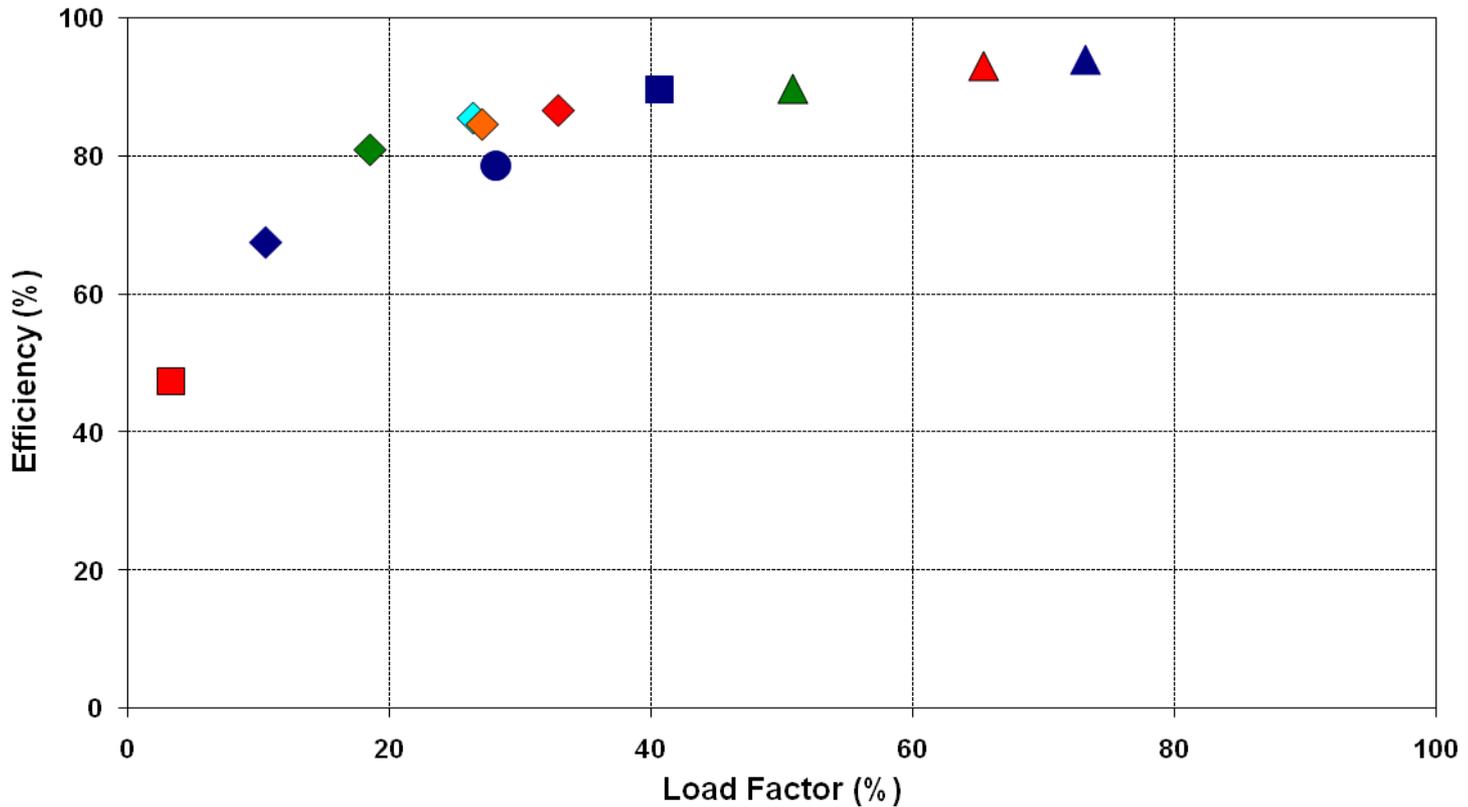
Standard	Good	Better
1.1 kW/ton	0.8 kW/ton	0.6 kW/ton

### Factory Measurements of UPS Efficiency (tested using linear loads)

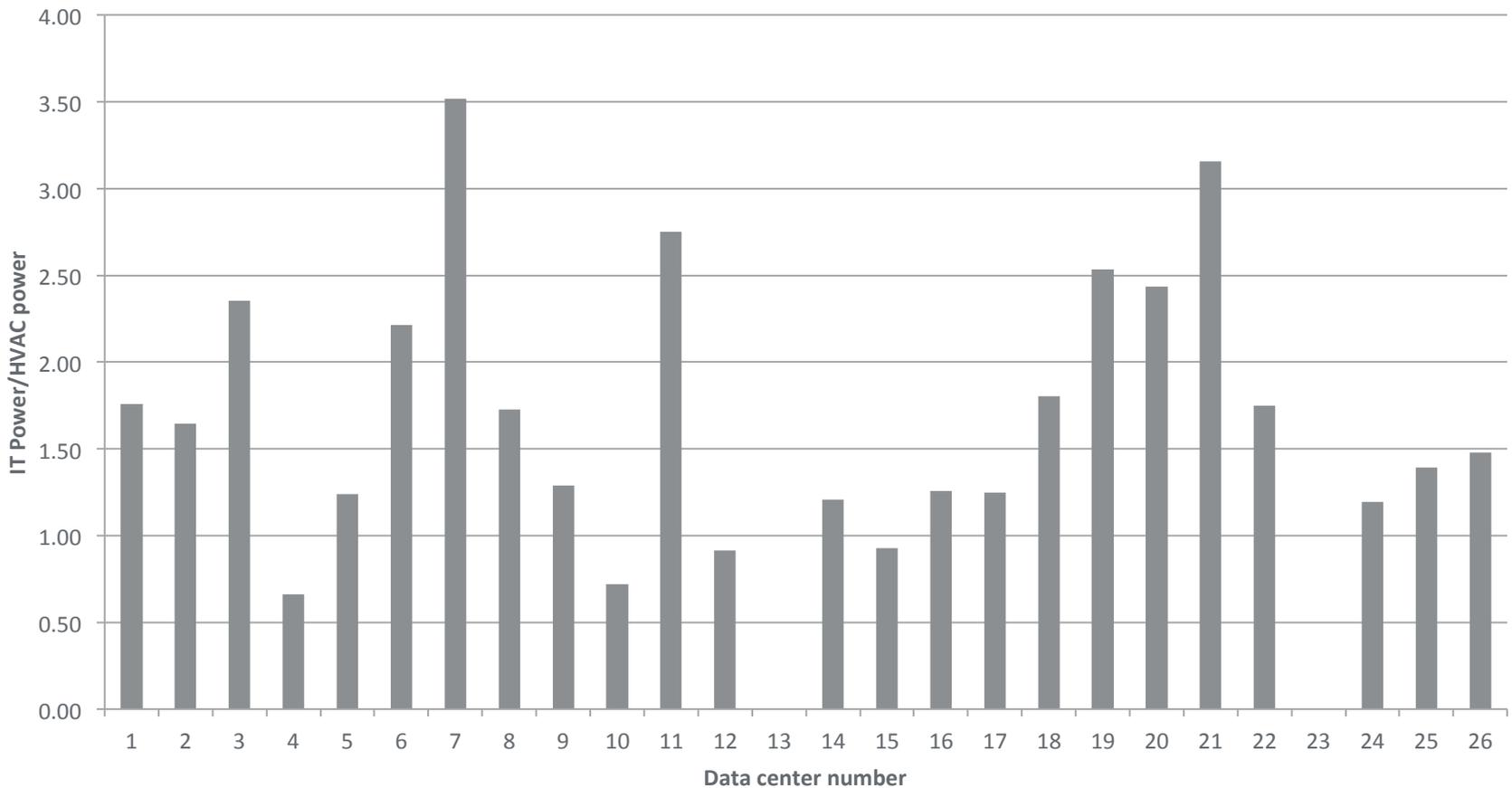


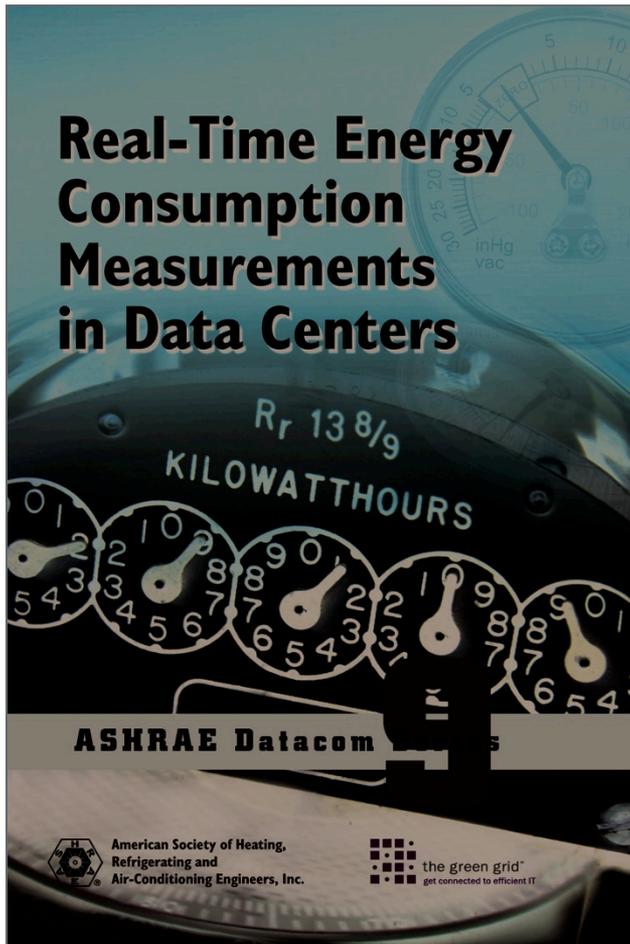
# Benchmarked UPS performance

### UPS Efficiency



### HVAC System effectiveness





- **Chapter 1** – Introduction
- **Chapter 2** – How, What, & Where To Measure
- **Chapter 3** – Measurement Devices
- **Chapter 4** – Measurement Collection Systems...
- **Chapter 5** – Air Handlers
- **Chapter 6** – Computer Room Units
- **Chapter 7** – Pumps
- **Chapter 8** – Cooling Towers
- **Chapter 9** – Chillers
- **Chapter 10** – Heat Exchangers
- **Chapter 11** – Introduction To Critical Power Distribution
- **Chapter 12** – Upstream Critical Power Distribution
- **Chapter 13** – Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)
- **Chapter 14** – Computer Room Transformer & PDU
- **Chapter 15** – Compute & Storage Systems
- **Chapter 16** – Networking Systems
- **Appendices A – F**

## High-Level On-Line Profiling and Tracking Tool

- Overall efficiency (Power Usage Effectiveness [PUE])
- End-use breakout
- Potential areas for energy efficiency improvement
- Overall energy use reduction potential

## In-Depth Excel Assessment Tools → Savings

### Air Management

- Hot/cold separation
- Environmental conditions
- RCI and RTI

### Electrical Systems

- UPS
- PDU
- Transformers
- Lighting
- Standby gen.

### IT-Equipment

- Servers
- Storage & networking
- Software

### Cooling

- Air handlers/conditioners
- Chillers, pumps, fans
- Free cooling

# Save Energy Now on-line profiling tool: "Data Center Pro"



## INPUTS

Description

Utility bill data

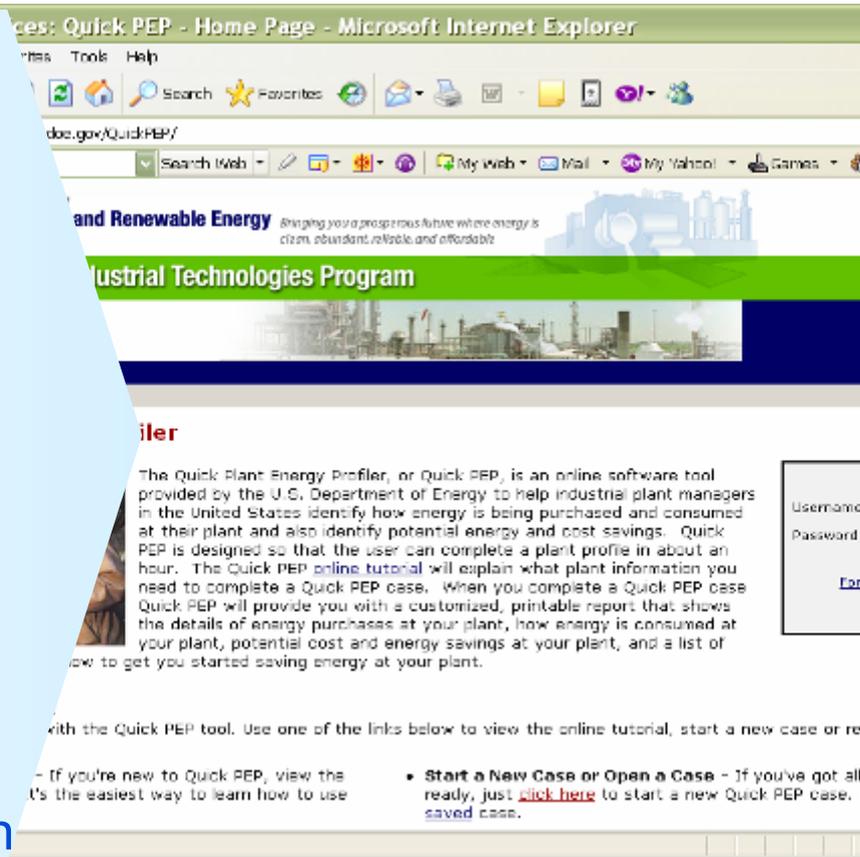
System  
information

IT

Cooling

Power

On-site gen



## OUTPUTS

Overall picture of  
energy use and  
efficiency

End-use breakout

Potential areas for  
energy efficiency  
improvement

Overall energy use  
reduction potential

Tracking capability

# Example of DC Pro Recommendations

## List of Actions (for the Electric Distribution System)

- Avoid lightly loaded UPS systems
- Use high efficiency MV and LV transformers
- Reduce the number of transformers upstream and downstream of the UPS
- Locate transformers outside the data center
- Use 480 V instead of 208 V static switches (STS)
- Specify high-efficiency power supplies
- Eliminate redundant power supplies
- Supply DC voltage to IT rack

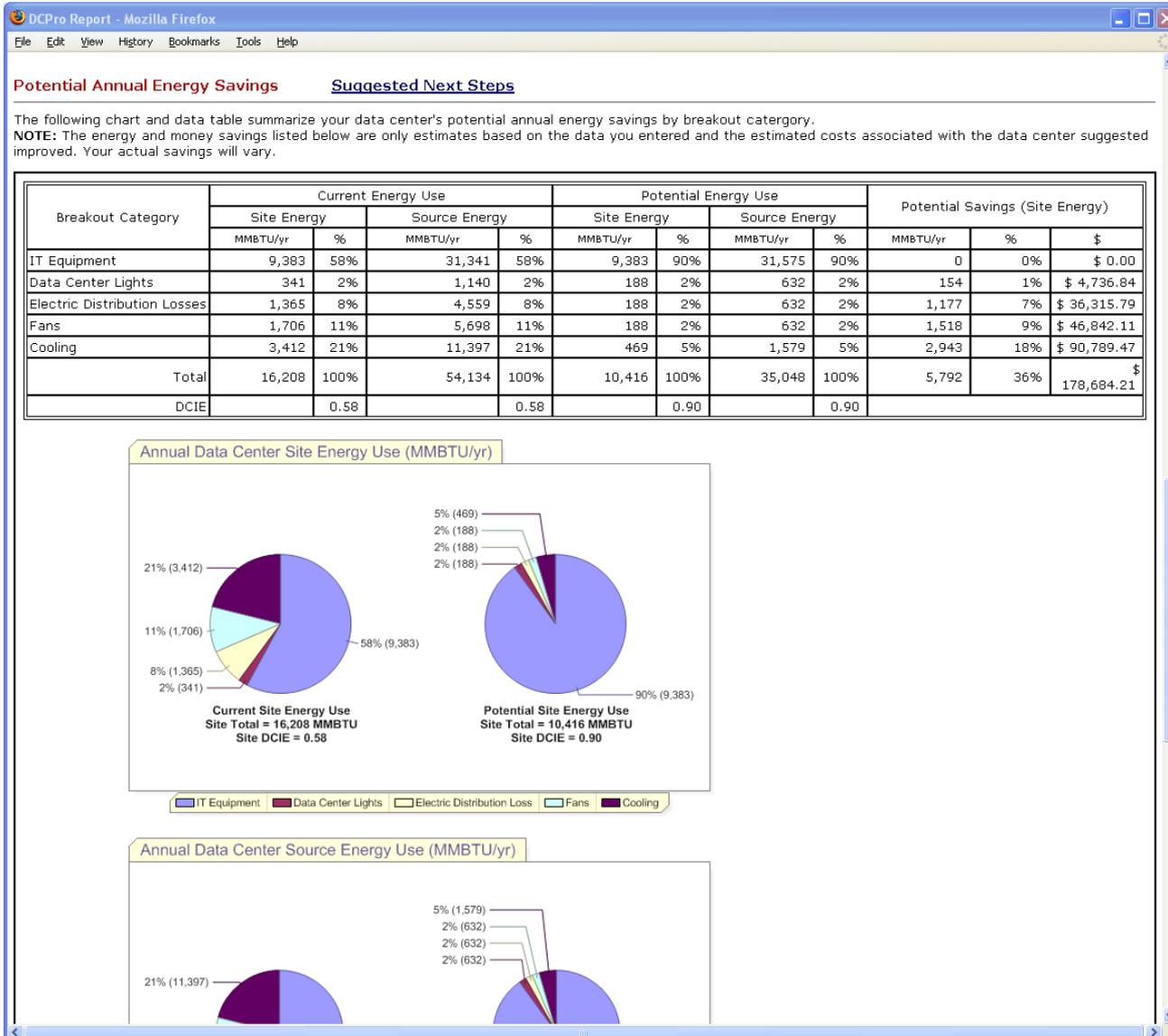
The screenshot displays the 'DC Pro' page from the Industrial Technologies Program. It features the U.S. Department of Energy logo and the tagline 'Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy'. The page highlights 'Potential Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Savings' based on potential energy savings identified above, stating that the data center may be able to reduce emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>. The following potential annual CO<sub>2</sub> emission savings numbers are broad estimates based on the estimated costs associated with the data center suggested improved and are not meant to reflect actual realized savings at your data center.

**Potential Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Savings From Electricity** 0 lbs.  
**Potential Annual CO<sub>2</sub> Savings From Fuel/Steam** 61,256,000 - 118,976,000 lbs.

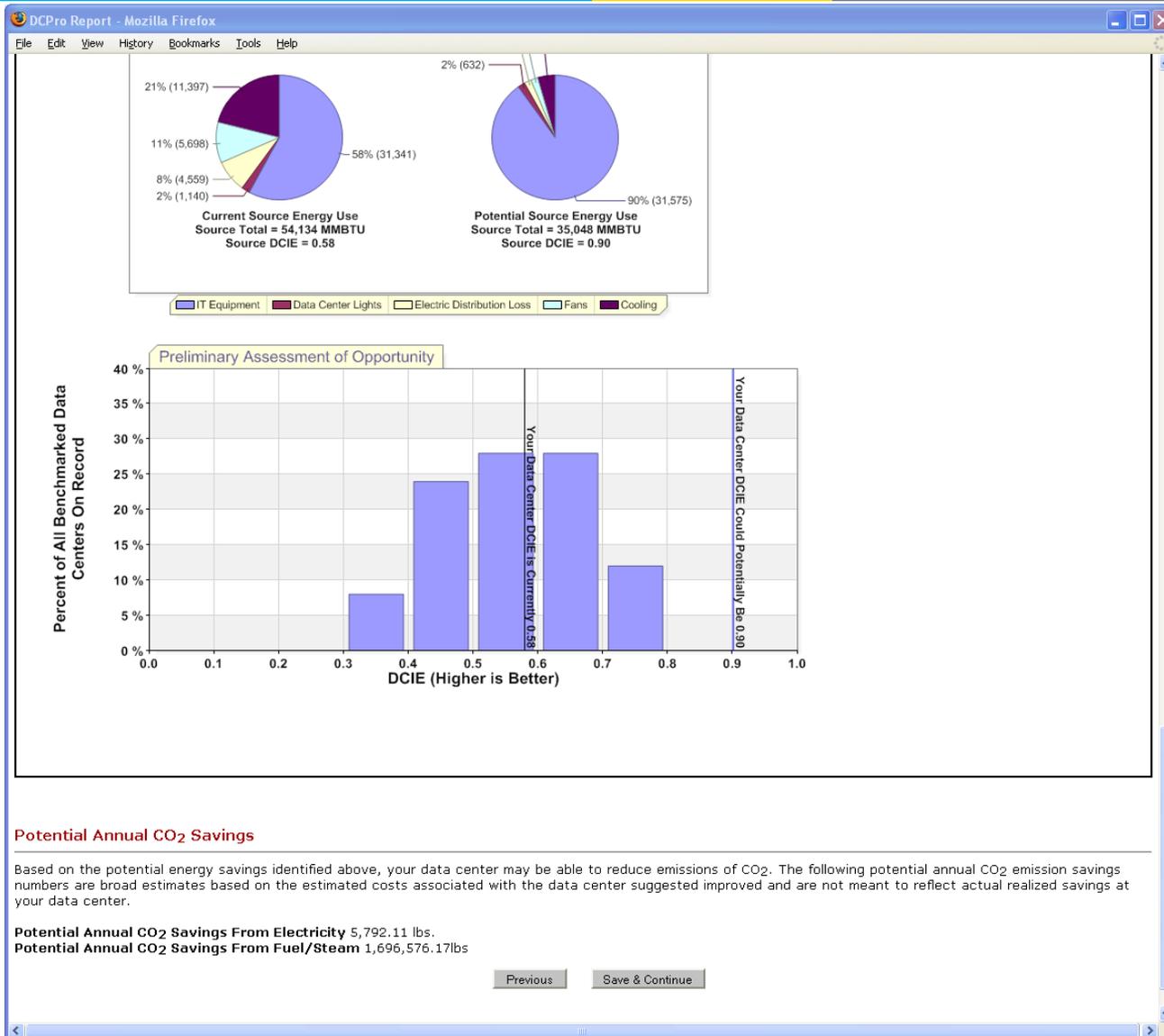
**Suggested Next Steps**

Energy Management	IT Equipments	Environmental Conditions	Air Management	Cooling Plant	IT Equipment Power Chain	Lighting
Create an energy management plan Assign staff with energy management Sub-meter end-use loads and track over time						

# DC Pro Output



# DC Pro Output



# Questions?



**Let's take a Break...**

## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

### Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
- Data center environmental conditions – Bell

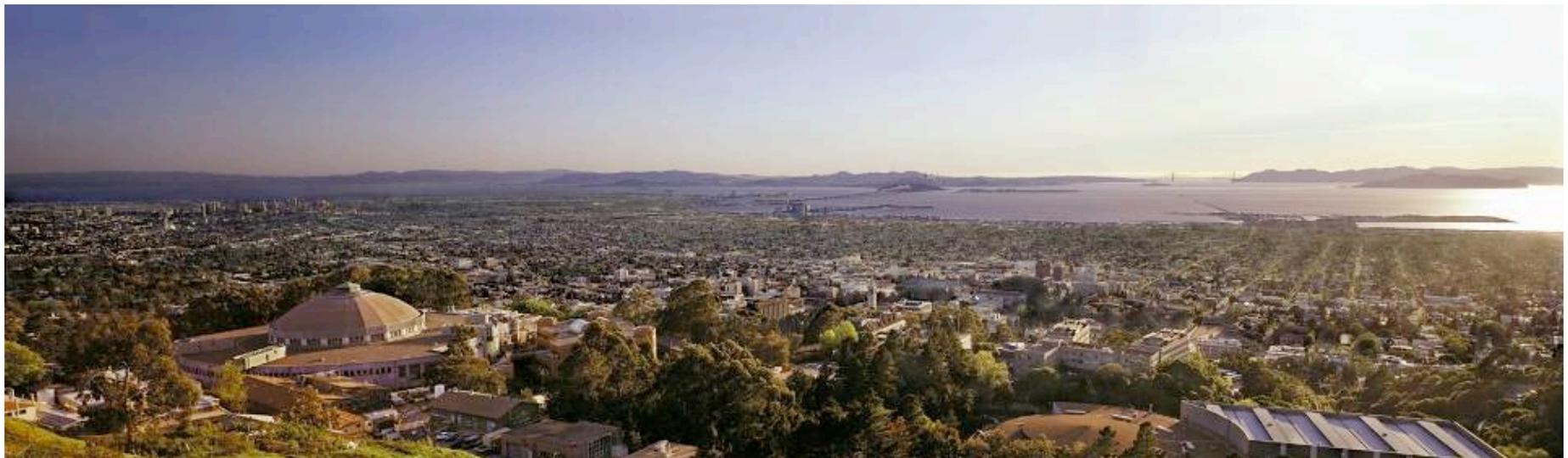
## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
- Cooling systems – Bell

### Break

- Electrical systems - Sartor
- Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor



## IT Equipment and Software Efficiency

Presented by:  
Geoffrey C. Bell, P.E.



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



### Power reduction Over Time\*



### Core Integer Performance Over Time\*



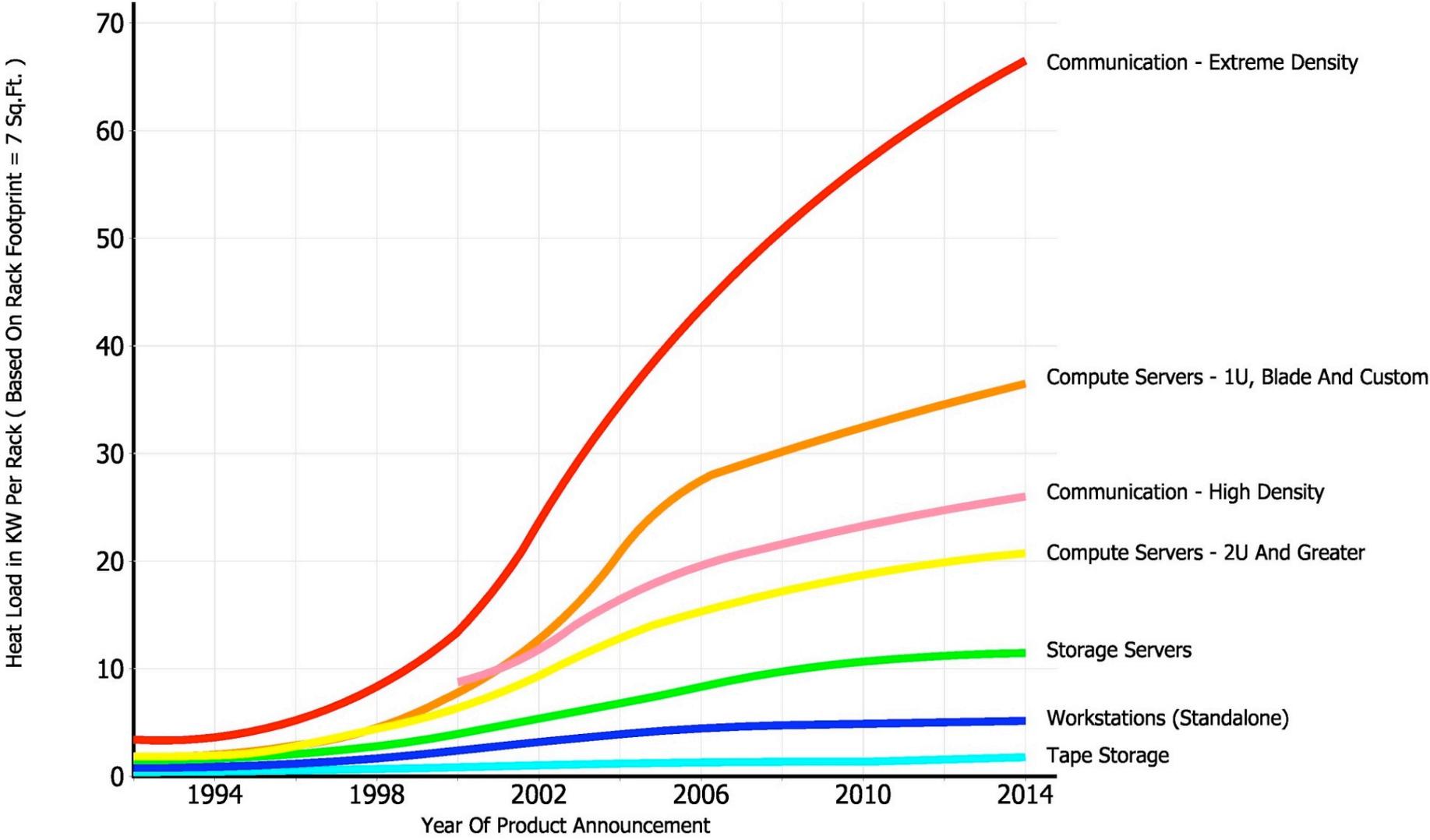
- Every year Moore's Law is followed, smaller, more energy-efficient transistors result.
- Miniaturization provides 1 million times reduction in energy/transistor size over 30+ years.
- Benefits: Smaller, faster transistors => faster AND more energy-efficient chips.

Source: Intel Corp.

# Server & Component Power Trends kW/ Rack

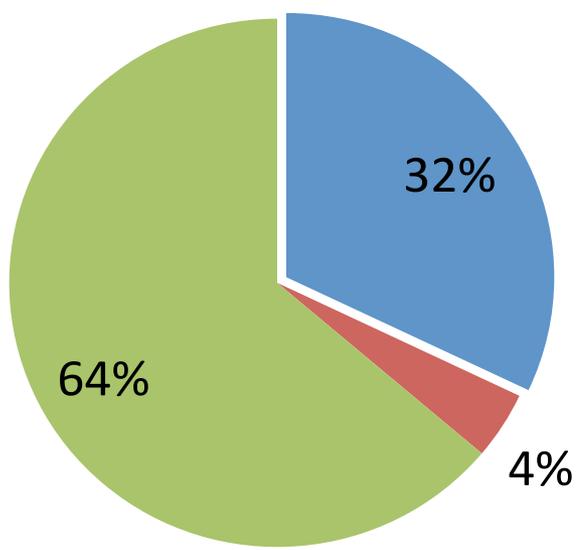


Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

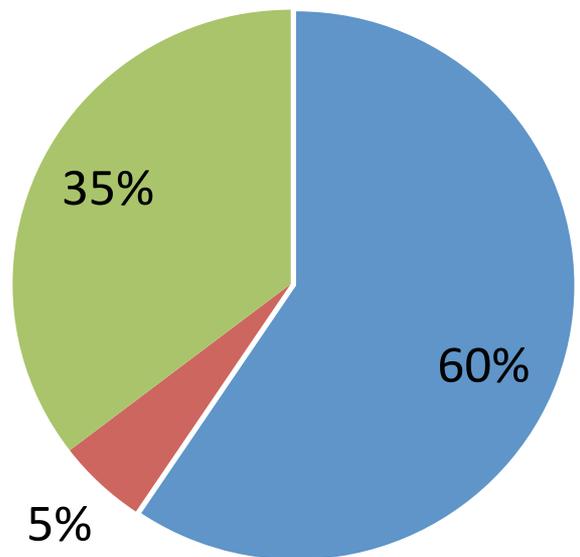


# IT equipment age and performance

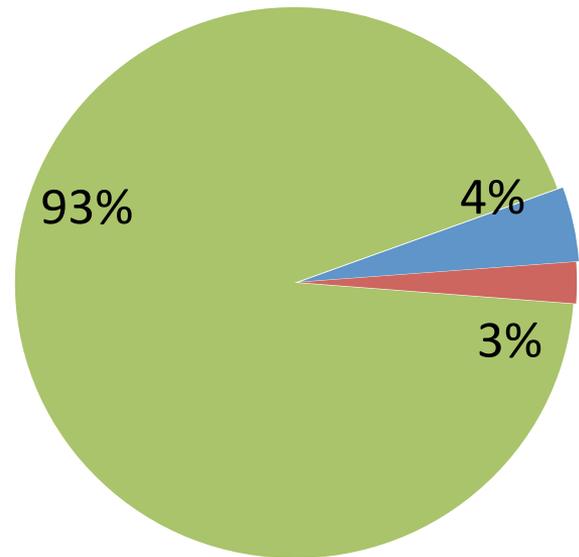
### Age Distribution of Servers



### Energy Consumption of Servers



### Performance Capability of Servers



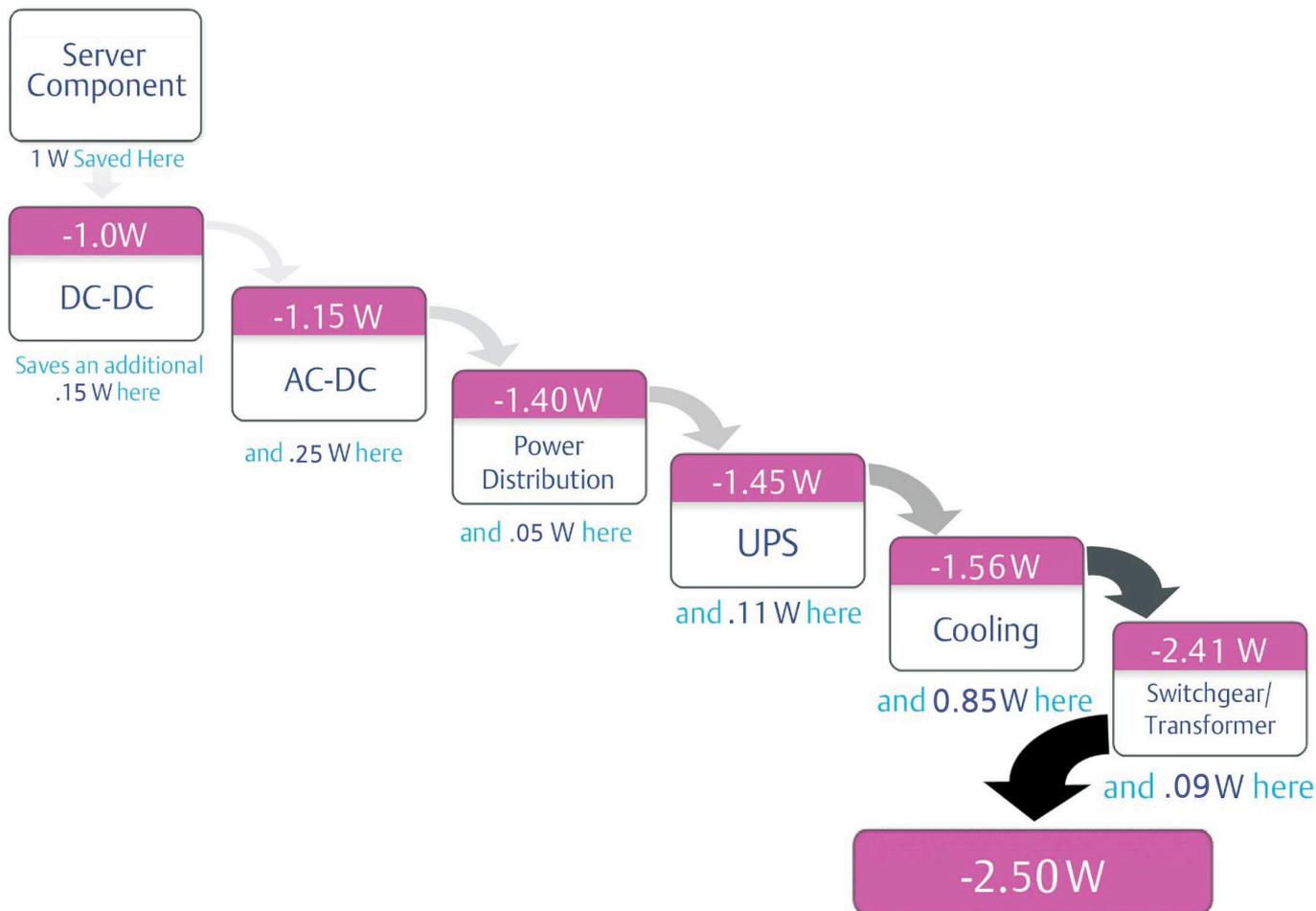
- 2007 & Earlier
- 2008, 2009
- 2010 - Current

**Old Servers consume 60% of Energy, but deliver only 4% of Performance Capability.**

Data collected recently at a Fortune 100 company; courtesy of John Kuzma and William Carter, Intel

# IT server performance - saving a watt...

## The value of one watt saved at the IT equipment



- Predicting IT loads
  - Over sizing is common, initially.
  - Over estimating IT loads can cause inefficiencies in electrical and mechanical systems and result in higher capital costs.
- Controlling IT loads
  - Server efficiency
    - Power supply efficiency
    - Redundancy options
    - Low power modes
    - Fan energy
    - Liquid cooling
  - Software efficiency
  - Virtualization, MAID, etc.
  - Redundancy and back-up power
- Reducing IT loads has a multiplier effect
- Setting environmental conditions; an efficiency opportunity

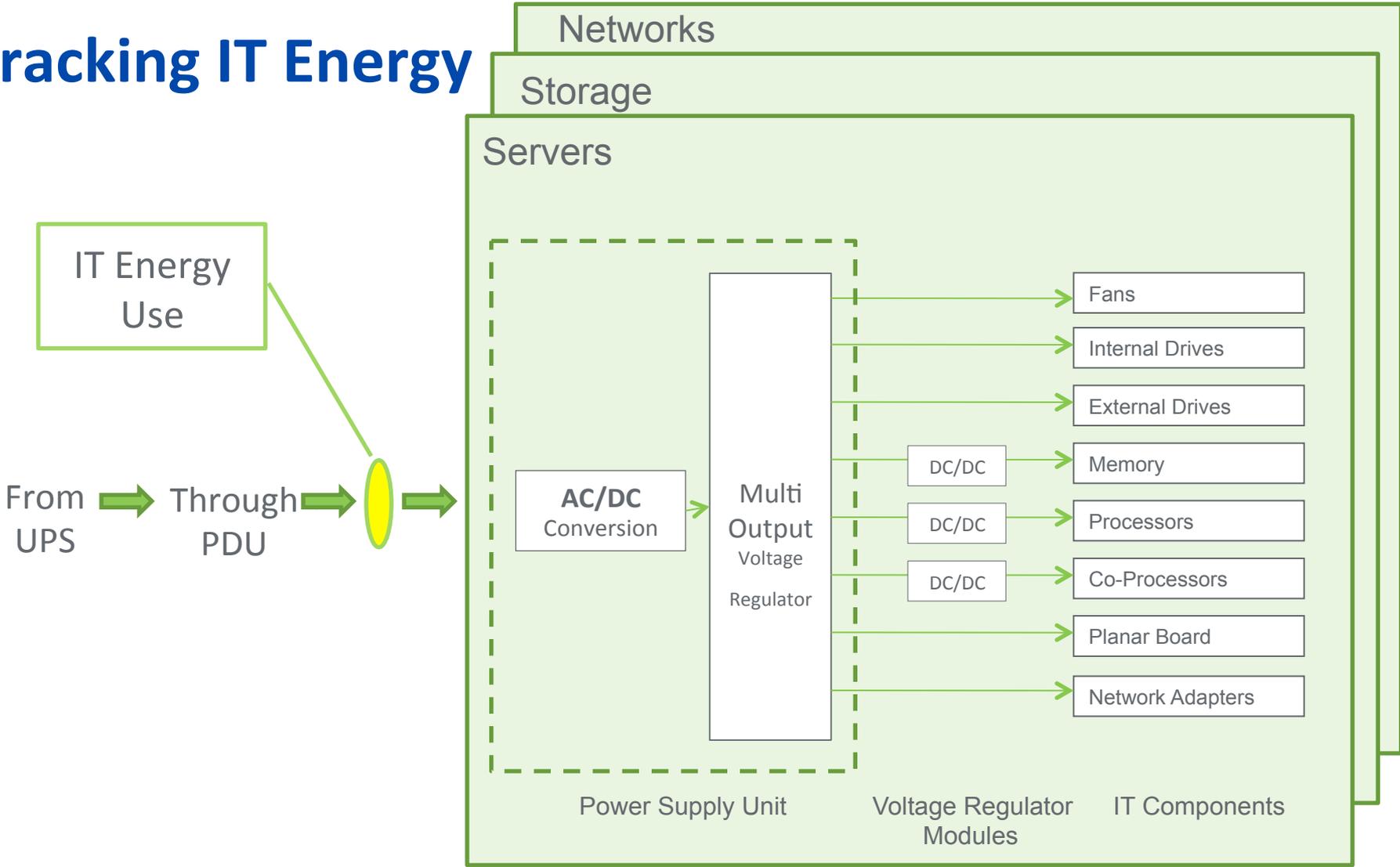
1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments
2. Manage IT System Assets
3. Virtualize and Consolidate Servers and Storage
4. Use Efficient Power Supplies
5. Consider Cloud Computing

# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

- Assessment includes evaluating:
  - Workload
  - IT Power Management
  - IT Cooling
  - IT Systems Management
- Automated tools are available
  - Wide range of sophistication and features
- DC Pro Assessment tool in development
  - Recommended actions to improve energy performance
  - Estimate of potential energy savings

# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## Tracking IT Energy

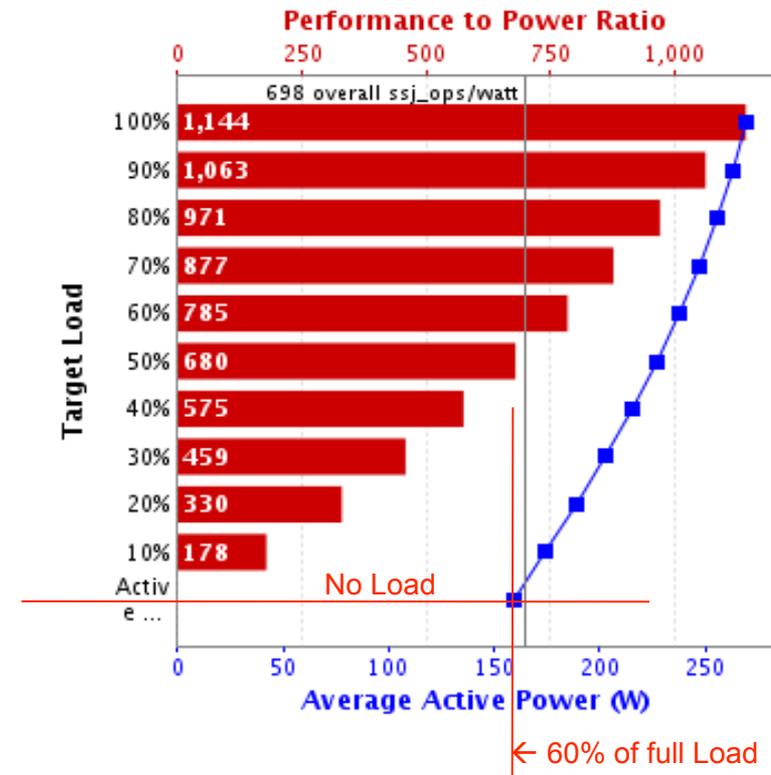


# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## IT Energy Use Patterns: Servers

Idle servers consume as much as 50-60% of power @ full load as shown in SpecPower Benchmarks.

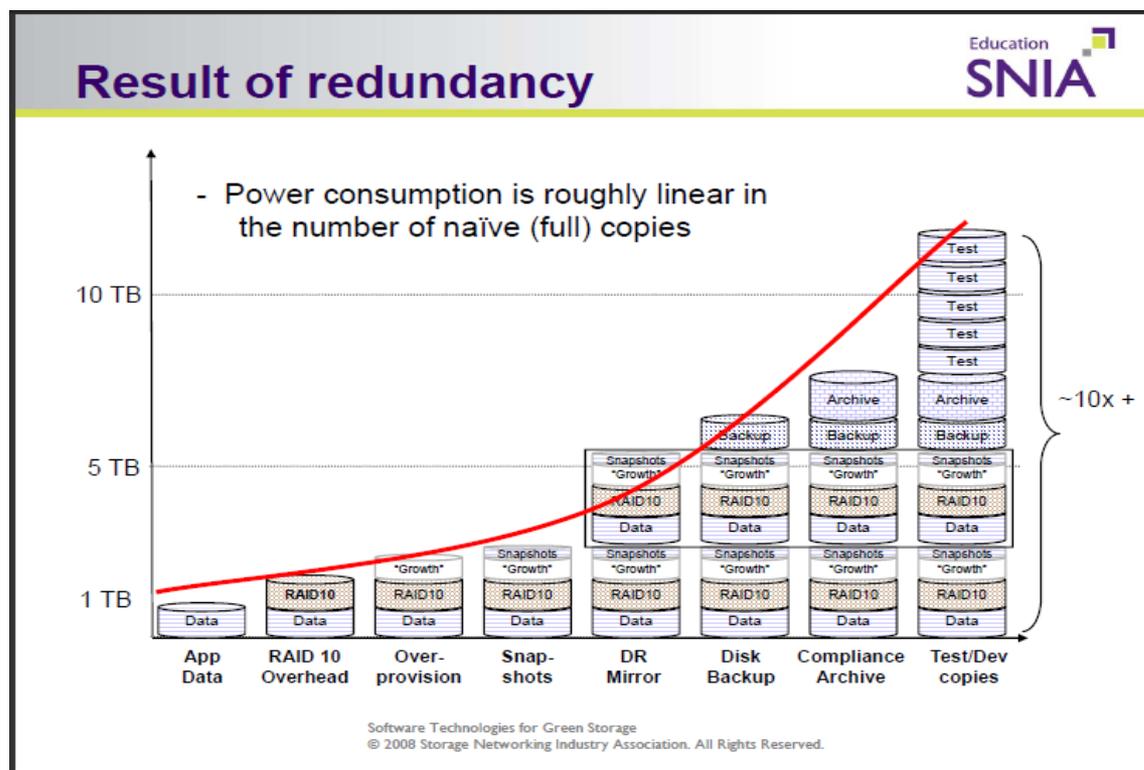
Performance			Power	Performance to Power Ratio
Target Load	Actual Load	ssj_ops	Average Active Power (W)	
100%	99.2%	308,022	269	1,144
90%	90.2%	280,134	264	1,063
80%	80.0%	248,304	256	971
70%	69.9%	217,096	247	877
60%	60.1%	186,594	238	785
50%	49.6%	154,075	227	680
40%	39.9%	123,805	215	575
30%	29.9%	92,944	203	459
20%	20.1%	62,364	189	330
10%	10.0%	31,049	174	178
Active Idle		0	160	0
$\Sigma$ ssj_ops / $\Sigma$ power =				<b>698</b>



# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## IT Energy Use Patterns: Storage Systems

Power consumption is roughly linear to the number of storage modules used. Storage redundancy needs to be rationalized and right-sized to avoid rapid scale up in size and power consumption. De-duplication is a strategy to eliminate unnecessary copies.

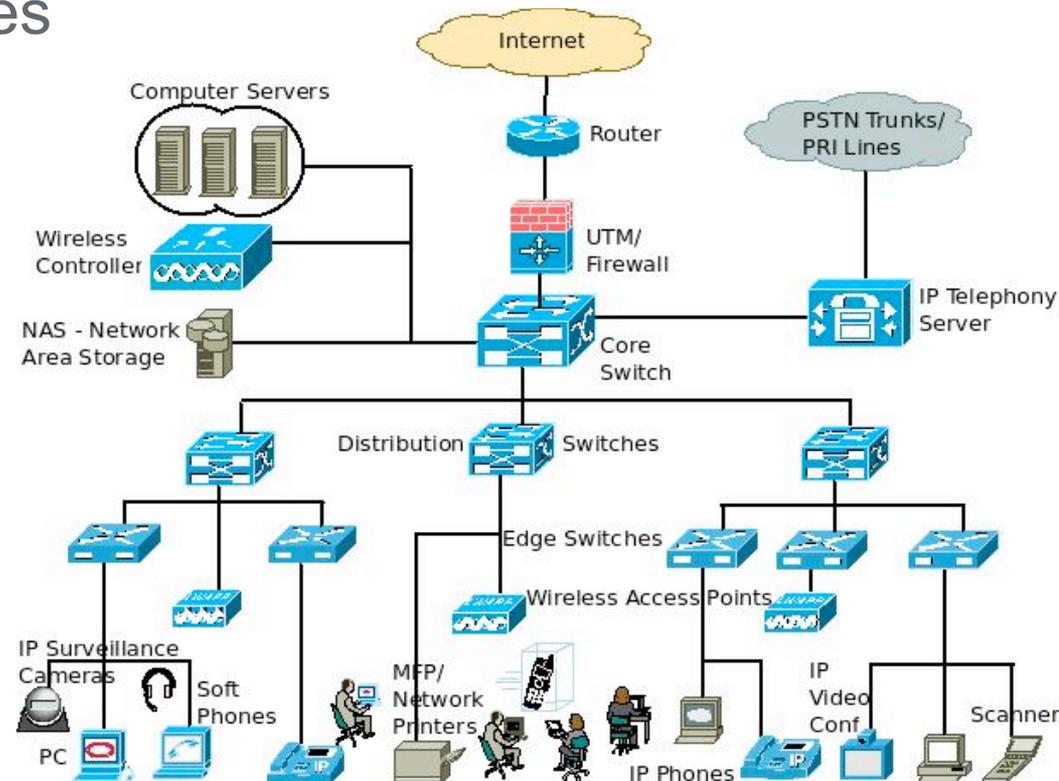


# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## Network Device and Equipment Energy

- An integral part of a Data Center
- Consumes significant energy in a Data Center
- Types of Network Devices

- Hubs
- Switches
- Firewall
- Wireless Access Points



# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## Network Equipment Energy Consumption

Network Devices Benchmarking Research by HP demonstrated the following:

- Energy usage proportional to data speed
  - 1 Gbps consumes more energy than 100 Mbps
  - Energy consumption is independent of packet size
  - Consolidate under utilized network ports to save energy
- Core switches
  - Energy consumption proportional to active ports in a card, and the number of cards
  - Disable ports and line cards when not in use
  - Consolidate to fewer line cards using most if not all ports
- In small switches (less than 48 ports) no significant relation between power consumption and the number of active ports
  - Uses same power whether 1 or all ports are active

# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## Thermal Report – Example: Generic Server

Configuration		Condition				
Description	Model	Typical Heat Release	Airflow			
			Nominal		Max. (@ 35°C)	
		Watts @ 120V	cfm	(m <sup>3</sup> /h)	cfm	(m <sup>3</sup> /h)
Minimum	1-way 1.5 GHz Processor 16GB memory	420	26	44	40	68
Full	2-way 1.65 GHz Processor Max. memory	600	30	51	45	76
Typical	1-way 1.65 GHz Processor 16GB memory	450	26	44	40	68

Note: Most new server fans are variable speed

# 1. Perform IT System Energy Assessments

## Thermal Report – Comparison to Nameplate

型号 Compliance ID: RCSQD SF2 服务器  
额定电压 : 100-127/200-240 V  
额定电流 : 10/5 A **1,0 kVA**  
额定频率 : 50/60 Hz 1 Ø

Licensed Machine Code - Property of  
©Copyright 2004  
All rights reserved. US Government Users  
Restricted Rights. Use, duplication or  
disclosure restricted by GSA ADP Schedule  
Contract with PM 97P6043

 美国  
罗彻斯特, 明尼苏达州,  
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I.T.E. 88Y4  C US

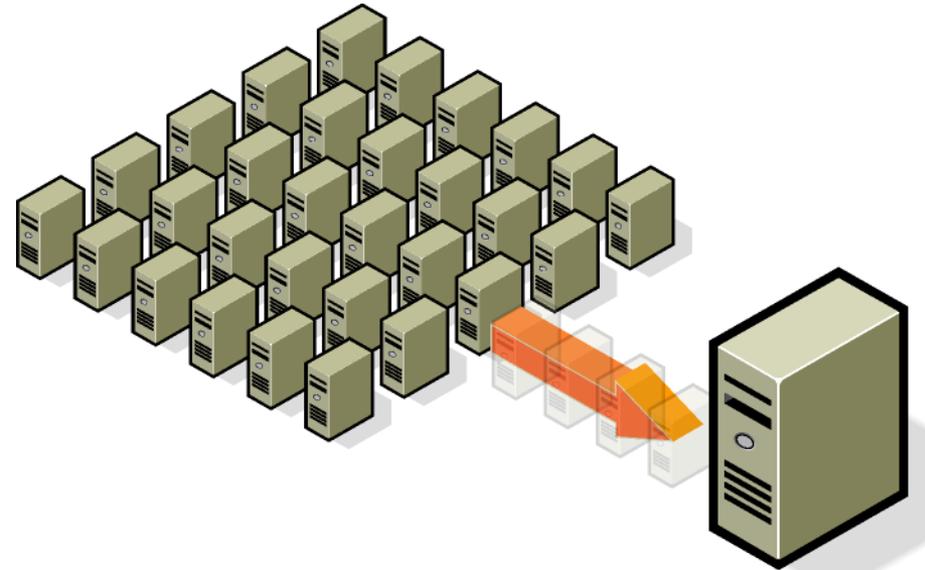
ASHRAE thermal report – 420 to 600 W

### IT Decommissioning

- According to Uptime Institute, 15-30% of servers are on and consuming energy but serve no useful purpose
- **Some decommissioning goals include:**
  - Regular inventory and monitoring
  - Offline idle or unassigned equipment
  - Identify low utilized hardware - consolidate
  - Remove leftover hardware from unfinished projects
  - Retire legacy hardware especially following refresh
- **PHYSICALLY RETIRE AN INEFFICIENT OR UNUSED SYSTEM.**
- **DO NOT PUSH THE PROBLEM ELSEWHERE.**

# 3. Virtualize and Consolidate Servers and Storage

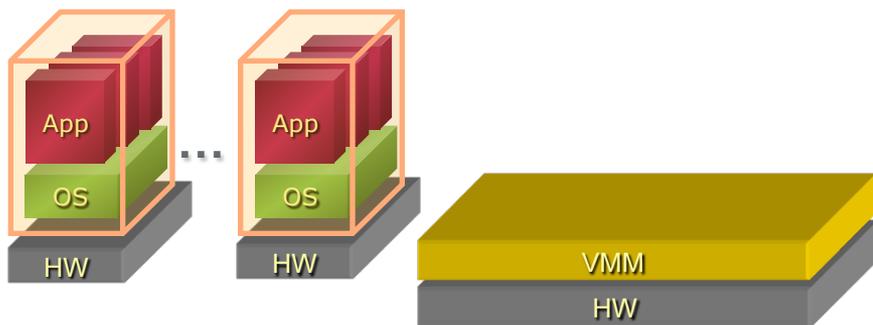
- Run many “virtual” machines on a single “physical” machine
- Developed in the 1960s to achieve better utilization & efficiency
- Can consolidate underutilized physical machines, increasing utilization
- Energy saved by shutting down or eliminated by underutilized machines
- Virtualization is hardware and operating system independent.



# 3. Virtualize and Consolidate Servers and Storage

## Virtualization: Workload provisioning

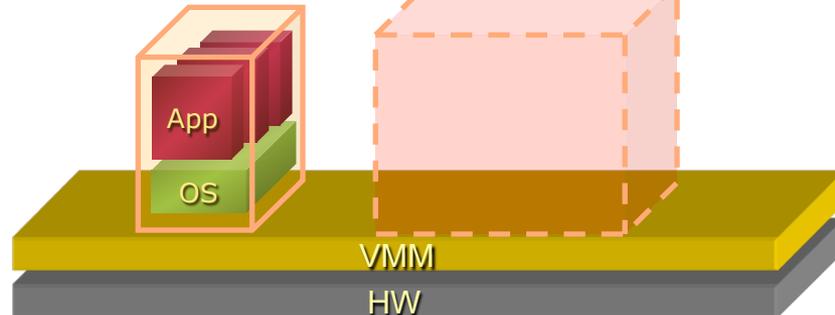
### Server Consolidation



10:1 in many cases

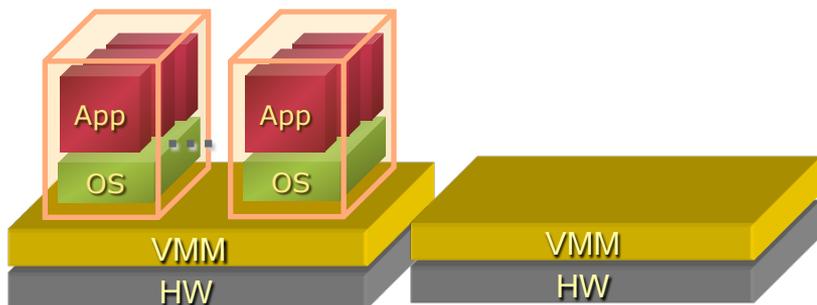
### R&D

### Production



Enables rapid deployment, reducing number of idle, staged servers

### Disaster Recovery

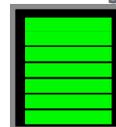


- Upholding high-levels of business continuity
- One Standby for many production servers

### Dynamic Load Balancing



CPU Usage



CPU Usage

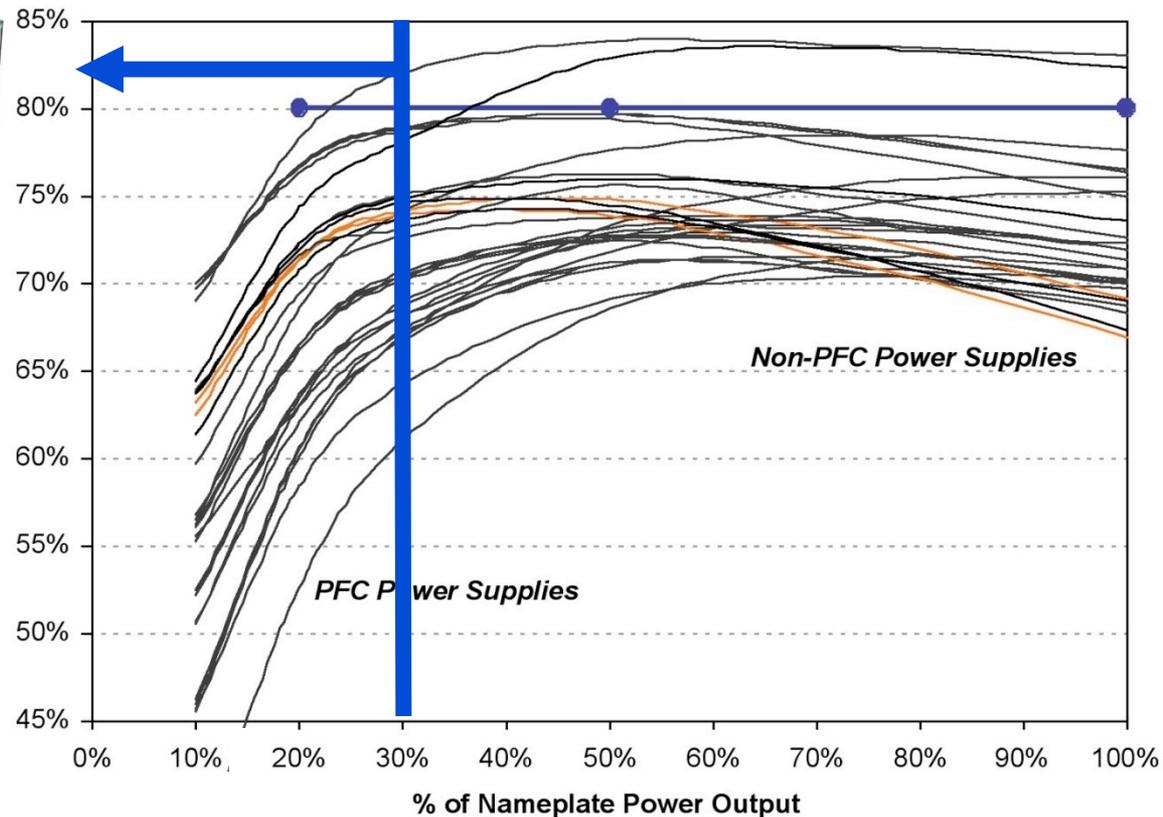


Balancing utilization with head room

# 4. Use Efficient Power Supplies

## LBNL/EPRI measured power supply efficiency

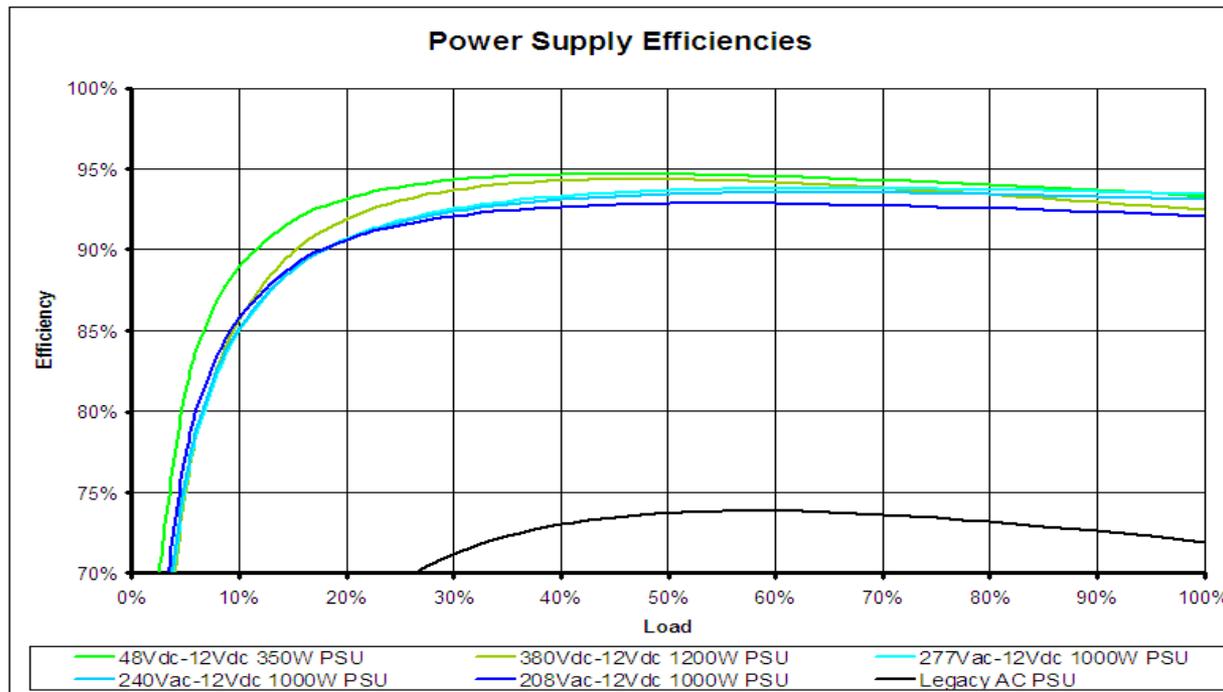
Measured Server Power Supply Efficiencies (all form factors)



## Power Supply Units

Power supplies are most efficient in the mid-range of their performance curves. Ensure power supplies are appropriate for the anticipated load. Power supply redundancy: operation is lower on the efficiency curve. Using Energy Star or Climate Savers power supplies will improve efficiencies.

Source: The Green Grid



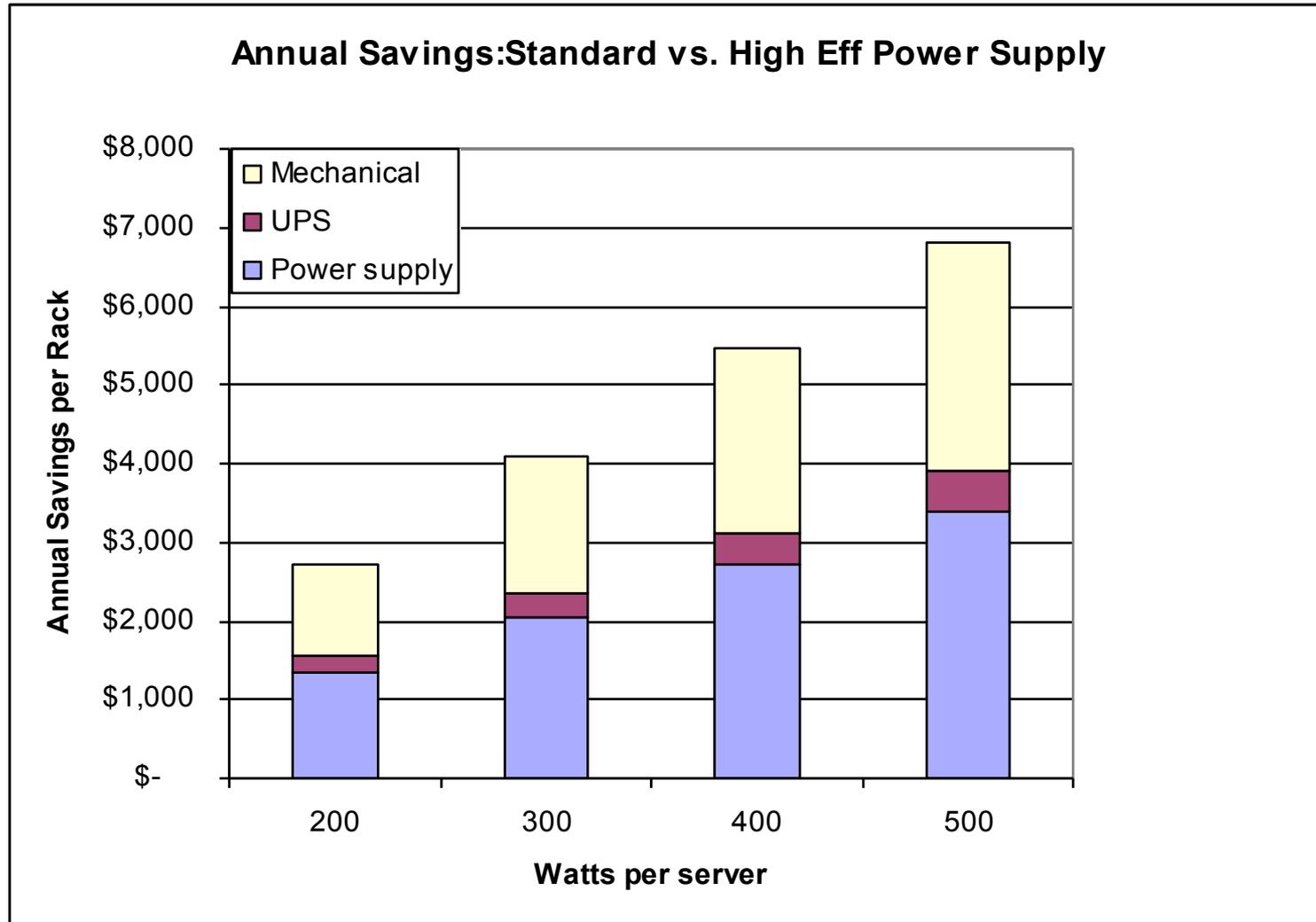
# 4. Use Efficient Power Supplies

## 80 PLUS Certification Levels

Level of Certification	Efficiency at Rated Load					
	115V Internal Non-Redundant			230V Internal Redundant		
	20%	50%	100%	20%	50%	100%
<b>80 PLUS</b>	80%	80%	80%	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>80 PLUS Bronze</b>	82%	85%	82%	81%	85%	81%
<b>80 PLUS Silver</b>	85%	88%	85%	85%	89%	85%
<b>80 PLUS Gold</b>	87%	90%	87%	88%	92%	88%
<b>80 PLUS Platinum</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	90%	94%	91%

# 4. Use Efficient Power Supplies

## Power supply savings add up...



## The value of high efficiency power supplies...

- 1 Watt at CPU
- = 1.25 Watts at entry to server (80% efficient power supply)
- = 1.56 Watts at entry to UPS (80% efficient UPS)
- = 2.5 Watts including cooling (2.0 PUE)
- = 22 kWh per year
- = \$2.20 per year (assuming \$0.10/kWh)
- = \$6 of infrastructure cost (assuming \$6/W)
- **Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) Perspective = \$12.60 (assuming three year life of server)**
- **Typical added cost of 80 plus power supply \$3 - \$5.**
- **Typical value - \$170 (assumes 15 Watts saved at power supply )**

$$\text{Energy} \quad \frac{15w \times 2.0PUE \times \$0.10 / kw \times 8,760hrs / yr}{1,000w / kW} \times 3yrs \approx \$80$$

$$\text{Infrastructure } 15w \times \$6/watt = \$90$$

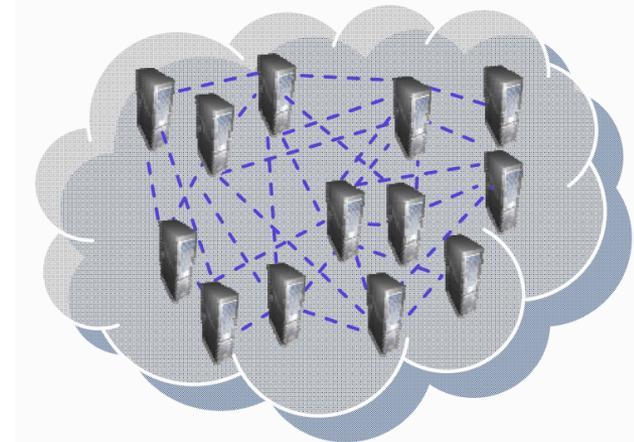
$$\text{Total } \$80 + \$90 = \$170$$

## Cloud Computing can provide...

- Dynamically scalable resources that are provided over the internet.
  - Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS): Managed hardware to host OS and applications.
  - Platform as a Service (PaaS): Managed OS to host applications.
  - Software as a Service (SaaS): Applications accessed through a web-browser.
- Decreased need for localized resources.
- Reduced capital expenditures through renting IT capacity that is managed by a third party.

## Cloud Computing – Impact on Utilization

- Workstations used 8 hours / workday with 12% utilization = **3% total utilization**
- A cloud can be used 24/7 with 80% load = **80% total utilization**
- Virtualizing compute capacity with cloud computing increases overall efficiency by:
  - Balancing out different application peak loads
  - Higher utilization
  - Shutting down unused servers to dynamically right size
  - Decreasing hardware requirements of workstation
  - Better managed systems
  - Better facility efficiency



## Include a Service Level Agreement – SLA – Using a Cloud or not...

- **SLA describes the level of service expected by a customer from an IT supplier** (can be between internal IT and facilities depts.).
  - Increases understanding, awareness, and beneficial results.
  - Commonly used in co-location types of data centers, but can also be established between two departments in the same organization.
  - Can establish environmental conditions and expected efficiencies.
- **SLAs stipulate metrics used to measure level of service**
  - Define and resolve issues regarding boundary conditions between IT equipment and the facility infrastructure / environment supporting it (power, cooling, maintenance, redundancy, etc.)

## Servers



- Choose *variable speed fans*
- Enable *power management capabilities!*
- Use EnergyStar® Servers

## Power Supplies



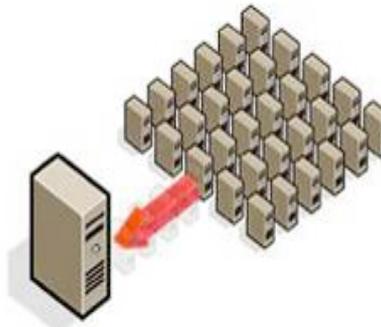
- Optimize load level: 40-60%
- Reconsider Redundancy
- Use 80 PLUS Program for efficient power supplies.

## Storage Devices



- Take superfluous data offline
- Use thin provisioning technology

## Consolidation



- Group hardware with similar heat load densities
- Practice virtualization

## Server System Infrastructure

*Managing Component Interfaces*

- [www.ssiforums.org](http://www.ssiforums.org)
- [www.80plus.org](http://www.80plus.org)
- [www.climatesaverscomputing.org](http://www.climatesaverscomputing.org)
- <http://tc99.ashraetcs.org/>



**ASHRAE**  
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc.  
**ASHRAE Technical Committee 9.9**



# Questions?



## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

## Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- **Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell**
- Data center environmental conditions – Bell

## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
- Cooling systems – Bell

## Break

- Electrical systems - Sartor
- Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor



# Using IT to Manage IT

Innovative Application of IT in Data Centers

Presented by:  
Geoffrey C. Bell, PE



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



Federal Energy Management Program

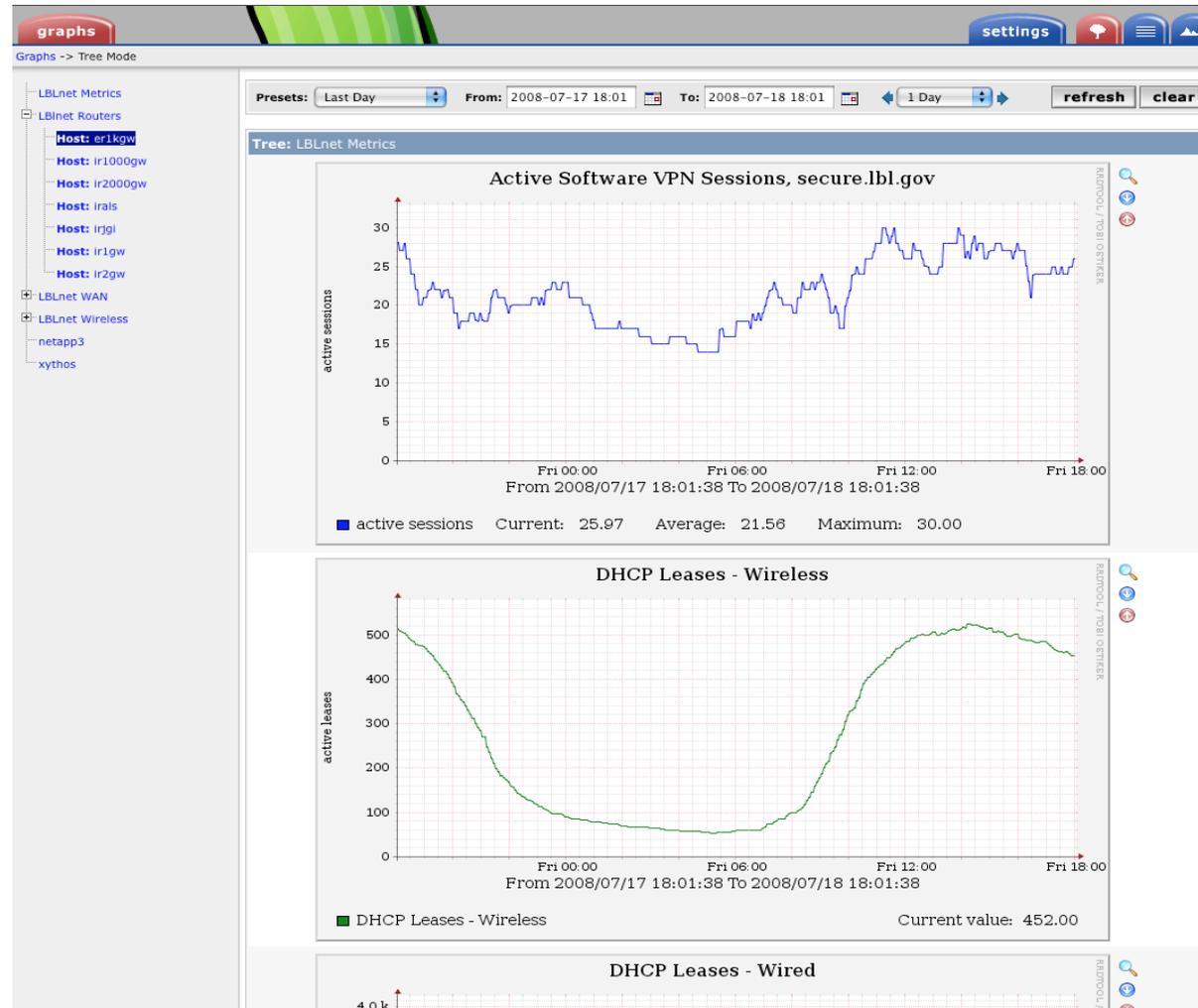


## Using IT to Save Energy in IT:

- Most operators lack “visibility” into their data center environment.
- An operator can’t manage what they don’t measure.
- Goals:
  - Provide the same level of monitoring and visualization of the physical space that exists for monitoring the IT environment.
  - Measure and track performance metrics.
  - Spot problems before they result in high energy cost or down time.

# The Importance of Visualization

- IT Systems & network administrators have tools for visualization.
- Useful for debugging, benchmarking, capacity planning, forensics.
- Data center facility managers have had comparatively poor visualization tools.



- ✓ **LBNL installed a wireless sensor network**
  - Monitoring over 800 points.
  - Sensing temperature, humidity, under-floor pressure, current
- ✓ **Provided a detailed understanding of environmental conditions in the data center**
  - Produces real-time and historical graphs
  - Achieved a baseline database
- ❖ **Emerging technology transfer a success!**
  - Verifying, “You can’t control or manage what you don’t measure.”

- ✓ Provides a mesh sensor network.
  - ✓ Non-invasive installation.
  - ✓ Includes 2 internal & 6 external sensors per node.
  - ✓ Measures temperature, humidity, pressure, and current.
  - ✓ Presents real-time feedback to optimize air management based on results, not intuition.
- 
- Can also measure liquid flow, liquid presence, and particle count.

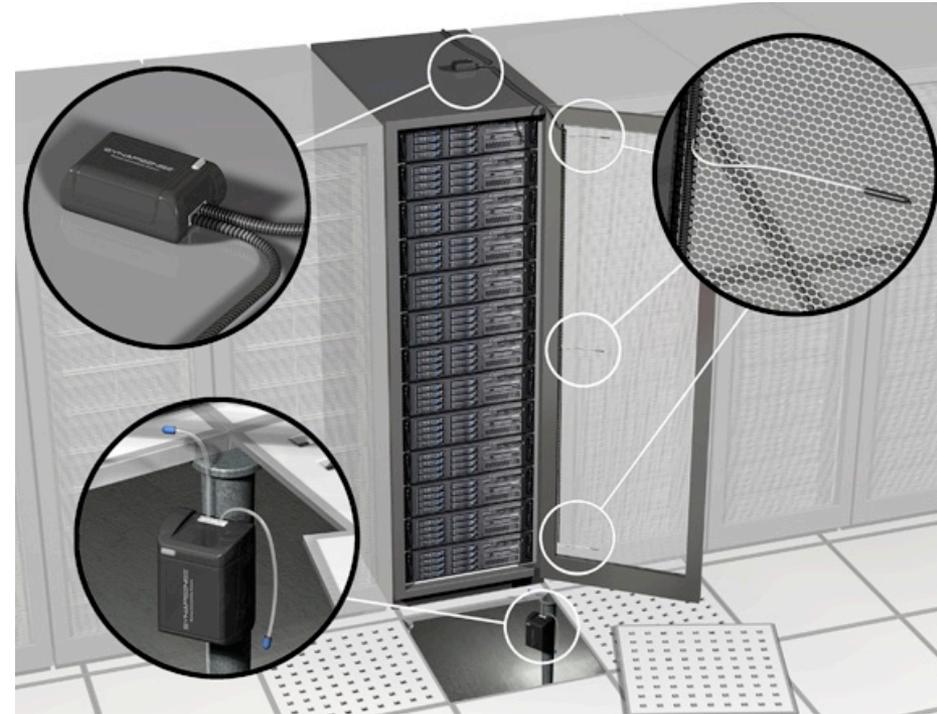
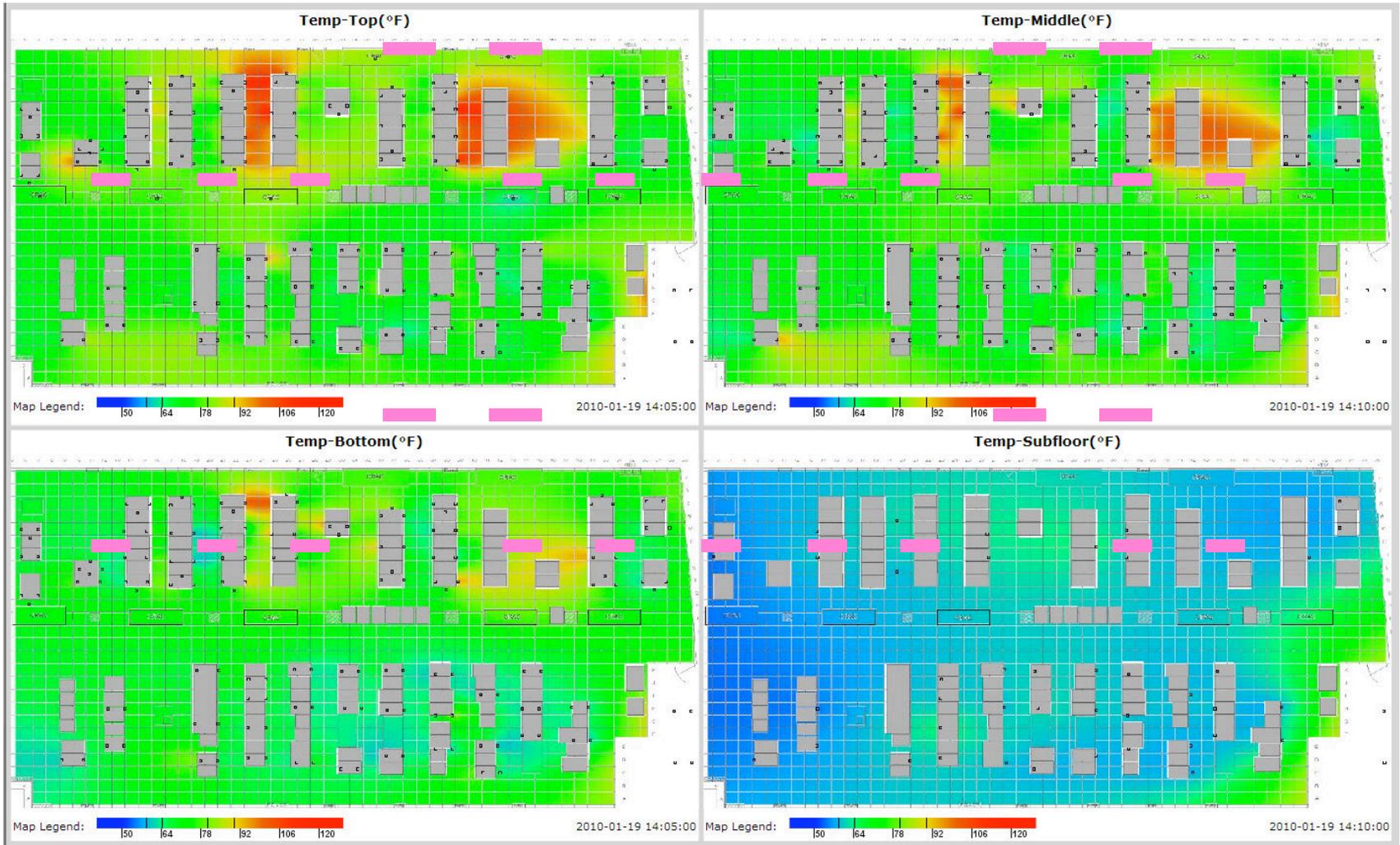
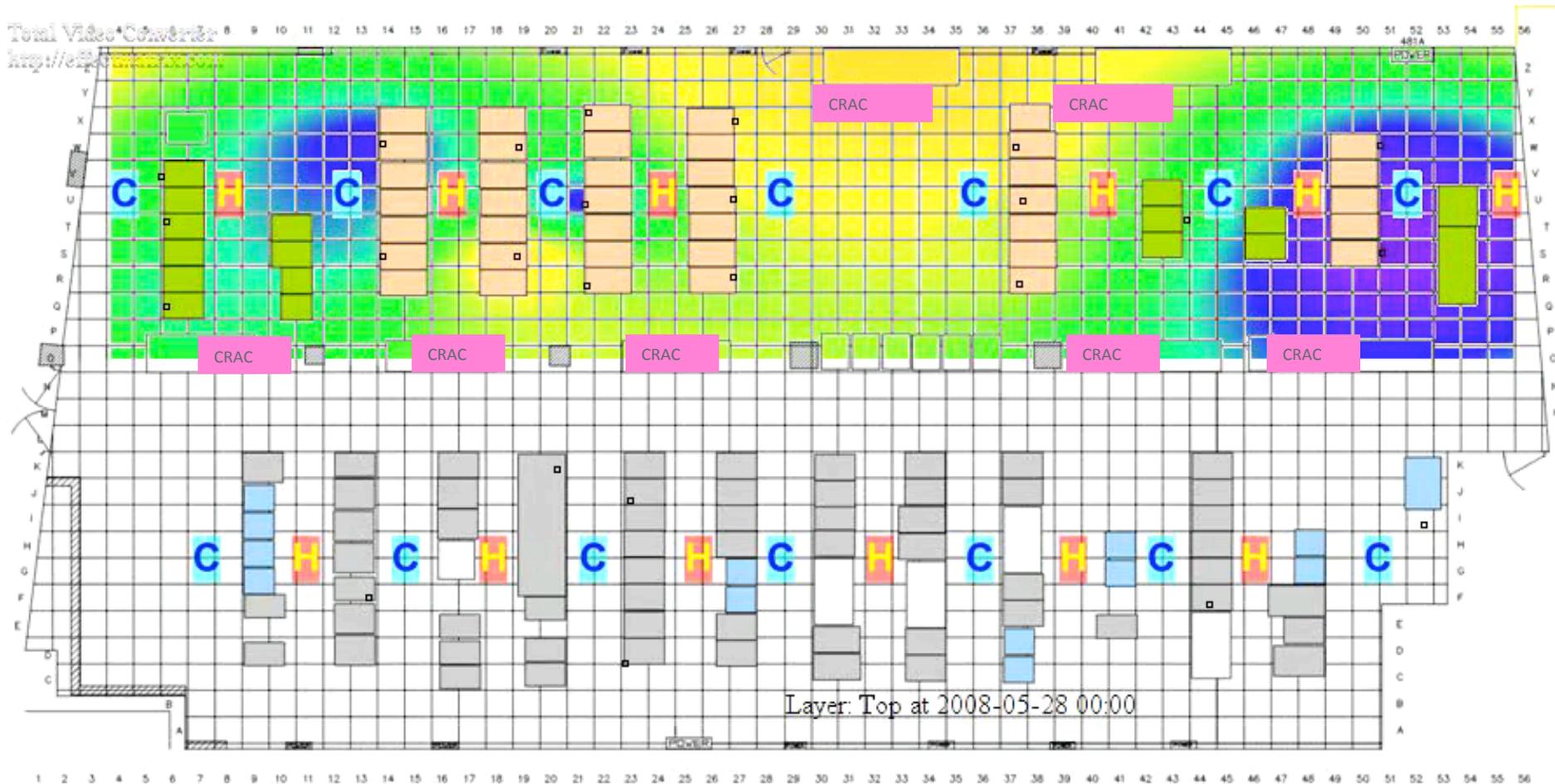


Image: SynapSense

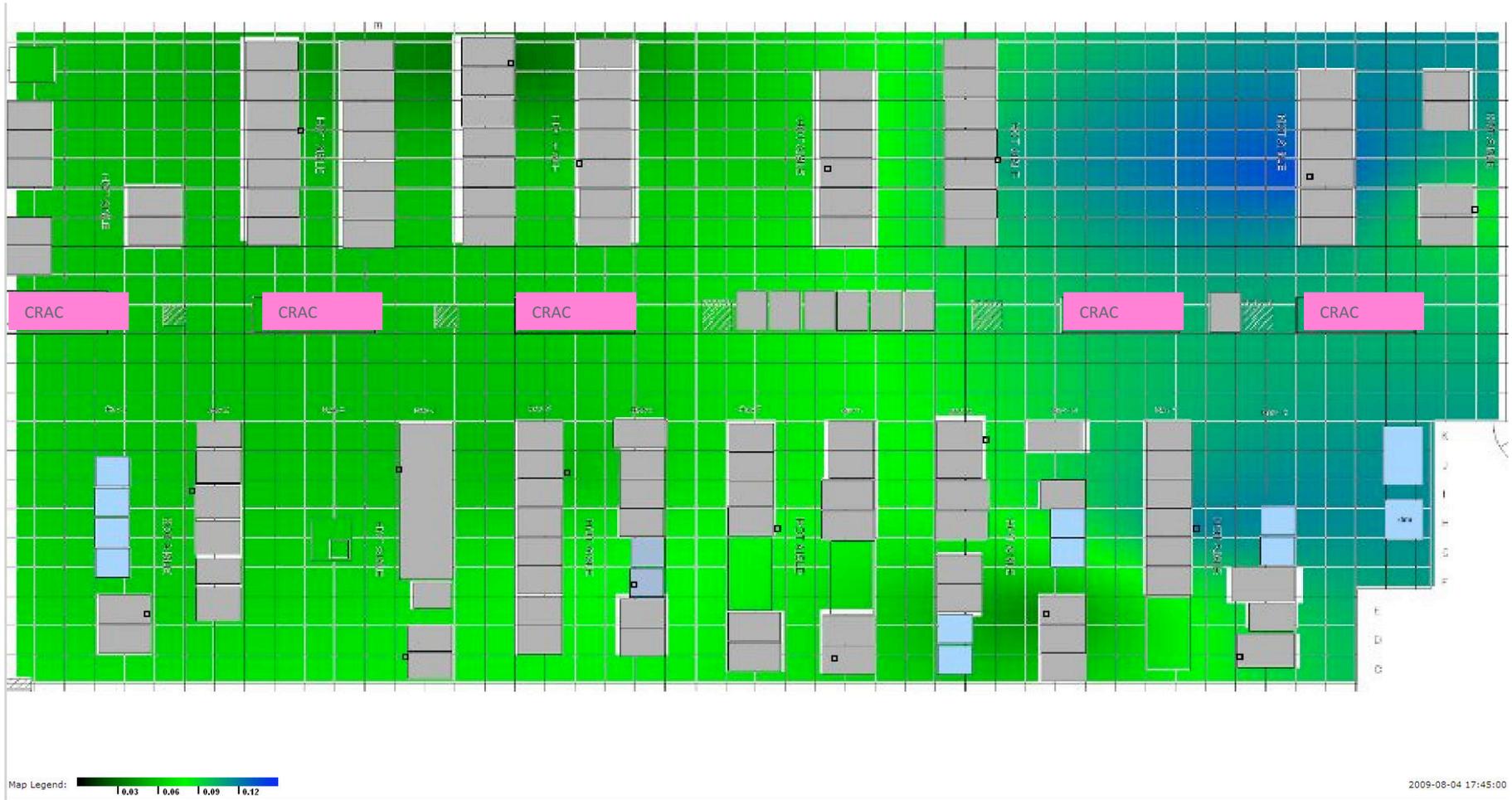
# Real-time temperature visualization by level



# Provided heat-map movies...



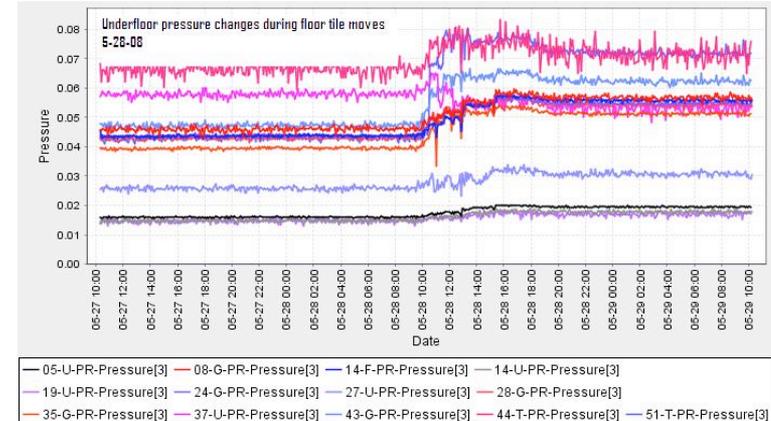
# Displayed Under-floor pressure map...



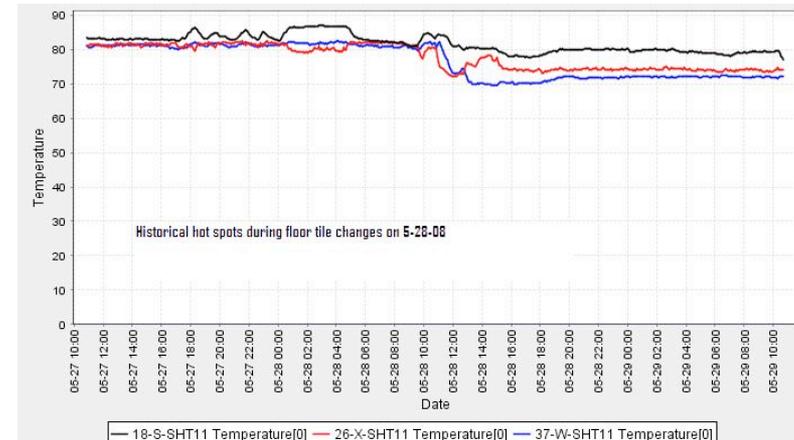
# Provided real-time feedback; helped floor-tile tuning

- ✓ Results in real-time.
- ✓ Removed guesswork by monitoring and using visualization tool.
- Verified that when airflow optimized,
  - under-floor pressure increases.
  - rack-top temperatures decreases.

## Under-Floor Pressure



## Rack-Top Temperatures



# Demonstrated server-rack tuning from blanking plates

Charts show effect of **adding one 12”** blanking panel to the middle of a server rack...

## Conclusions:

- ✓ Use blanking panels.
- ✓ Eliminate leaks in floor.
- ✓ Manage floor tile permeability.

Top of rack



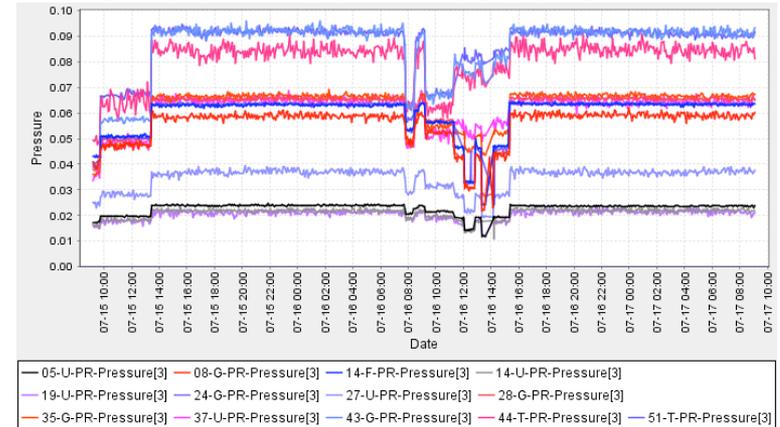
Middle of rack



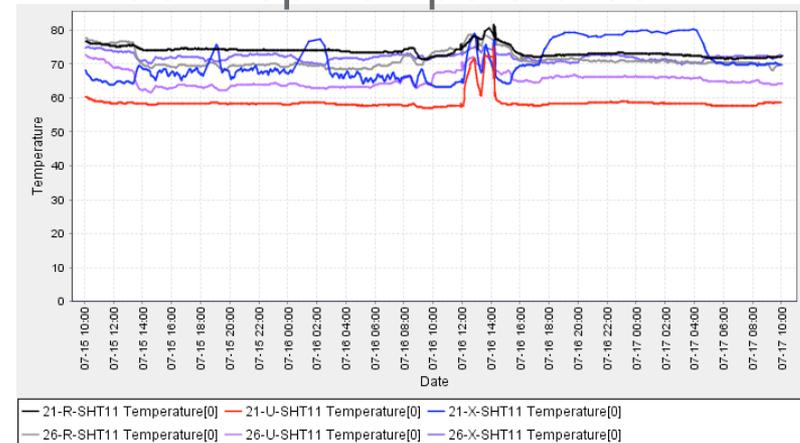
# Determined relative CRAC cooling energy impact

- Turned off each CRAC in turn, for service.
- Monitored resulting hot spots during maintenance.
- Identified non-critical CRAC units.
- Enhanced knowledge of data center redundancy.
- Turned off unnecessary CRAC units to save energy.

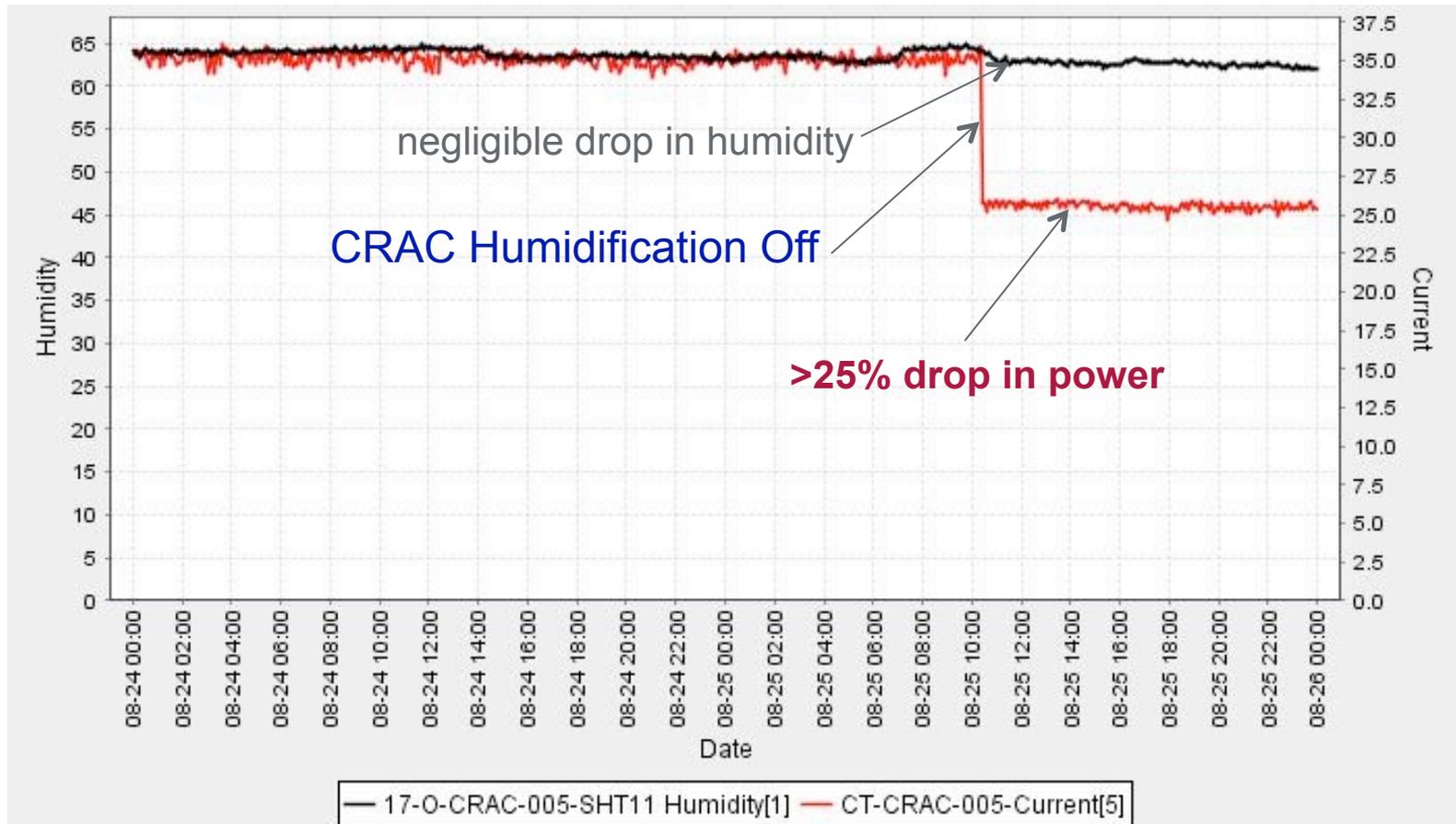
## Under-Floor Pressure



## Rack-Top Temperatures

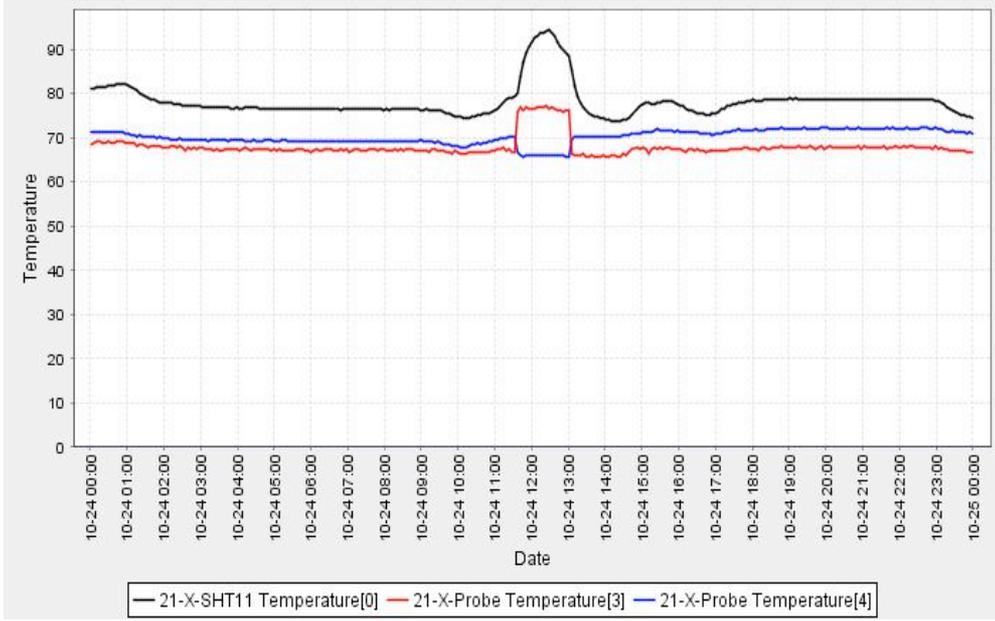


# Analyzed humidity control

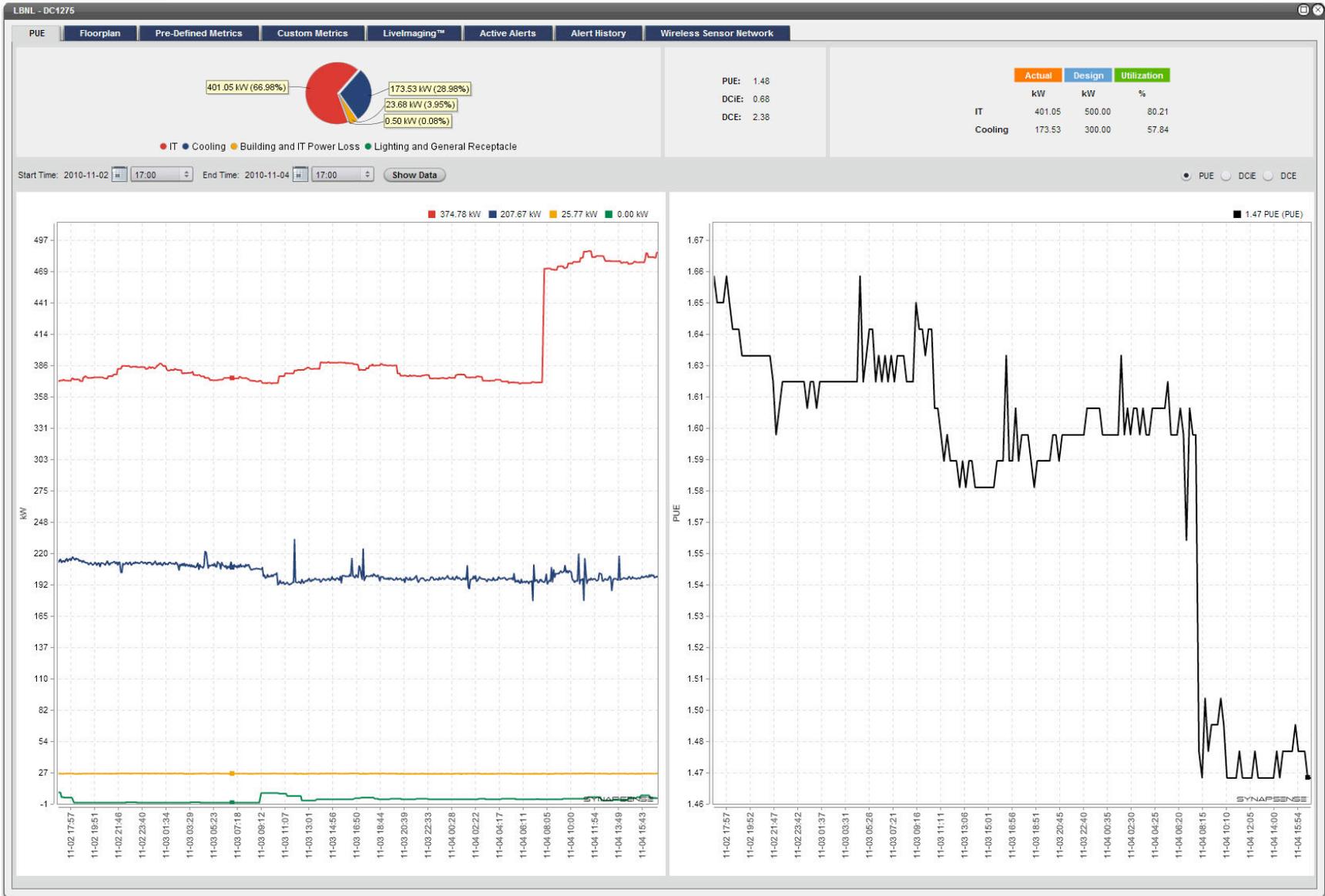


# Feedback continues to help: Note impact of IT cart!

## Real-time feedback identified cold aisle air flow obstruction!



# Real-time PUE Display



## Description:

- 10,000 Sq Ft
- 12 CRAH cooling units
- 135 kW load

## Challenges:

- Over-provisioned
- History of fighting
- Manual shutoff not successful

## Solution:

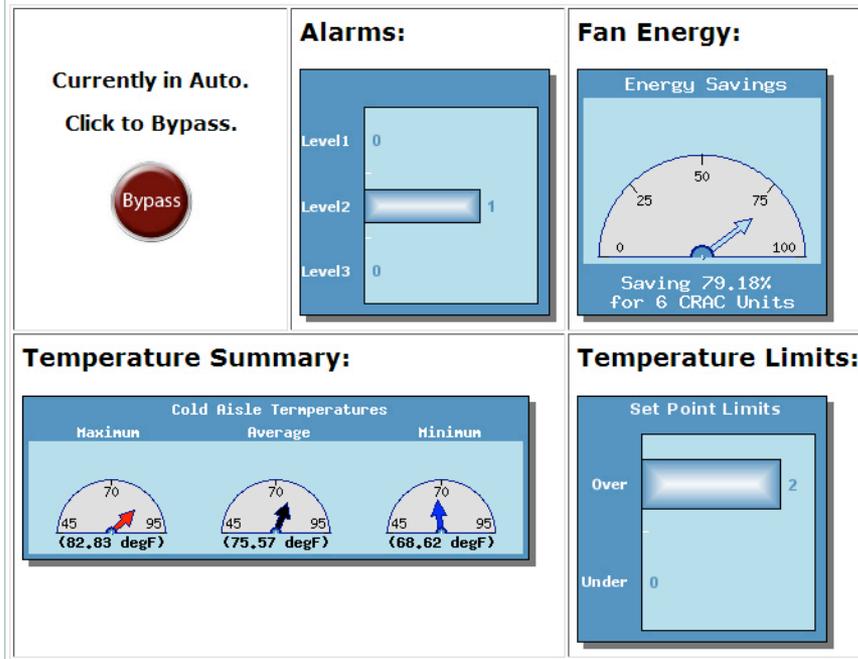
- Intelligent supervisory control software with inlet air sensing



- **Establish baseline**
- **Adjust floor tiles**
- **Install Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs)**
- **Install supervisory control software**
- **Isolate hot-aisles**
- **Blank racks**

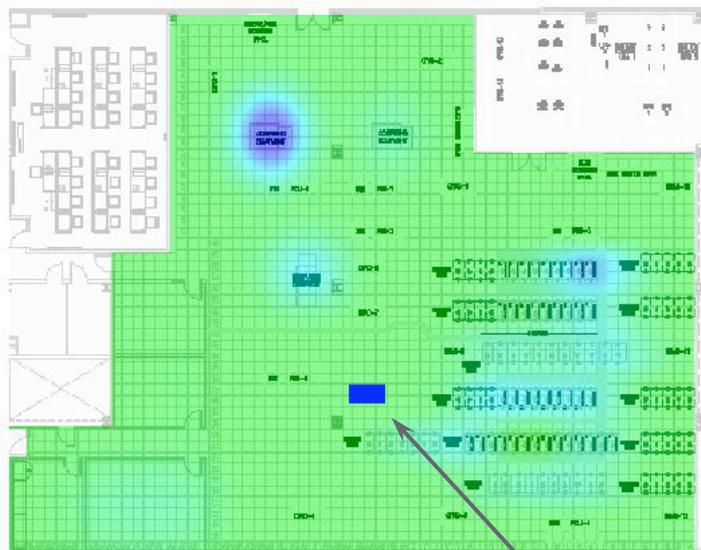
- WSN included 50 wireless temperature sensors (Dust Networks radios)
- Intelligent control software

## FACS Dashboard:

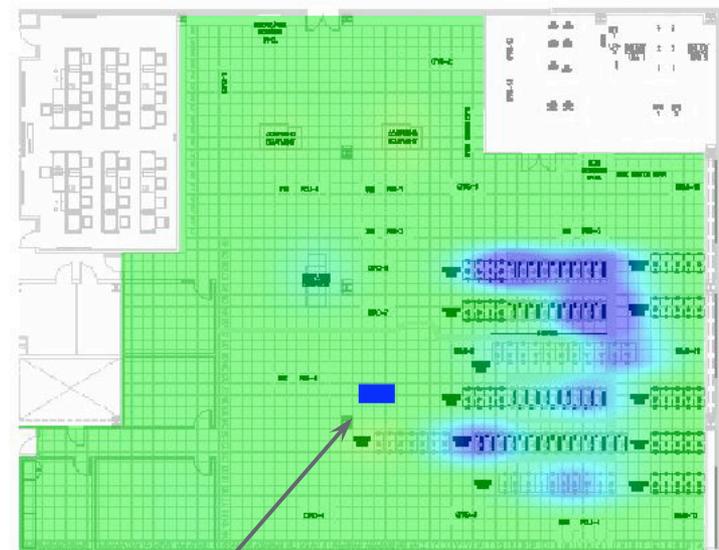


# WSN Smart software: learns about curtains

CRAH 3 influence at start

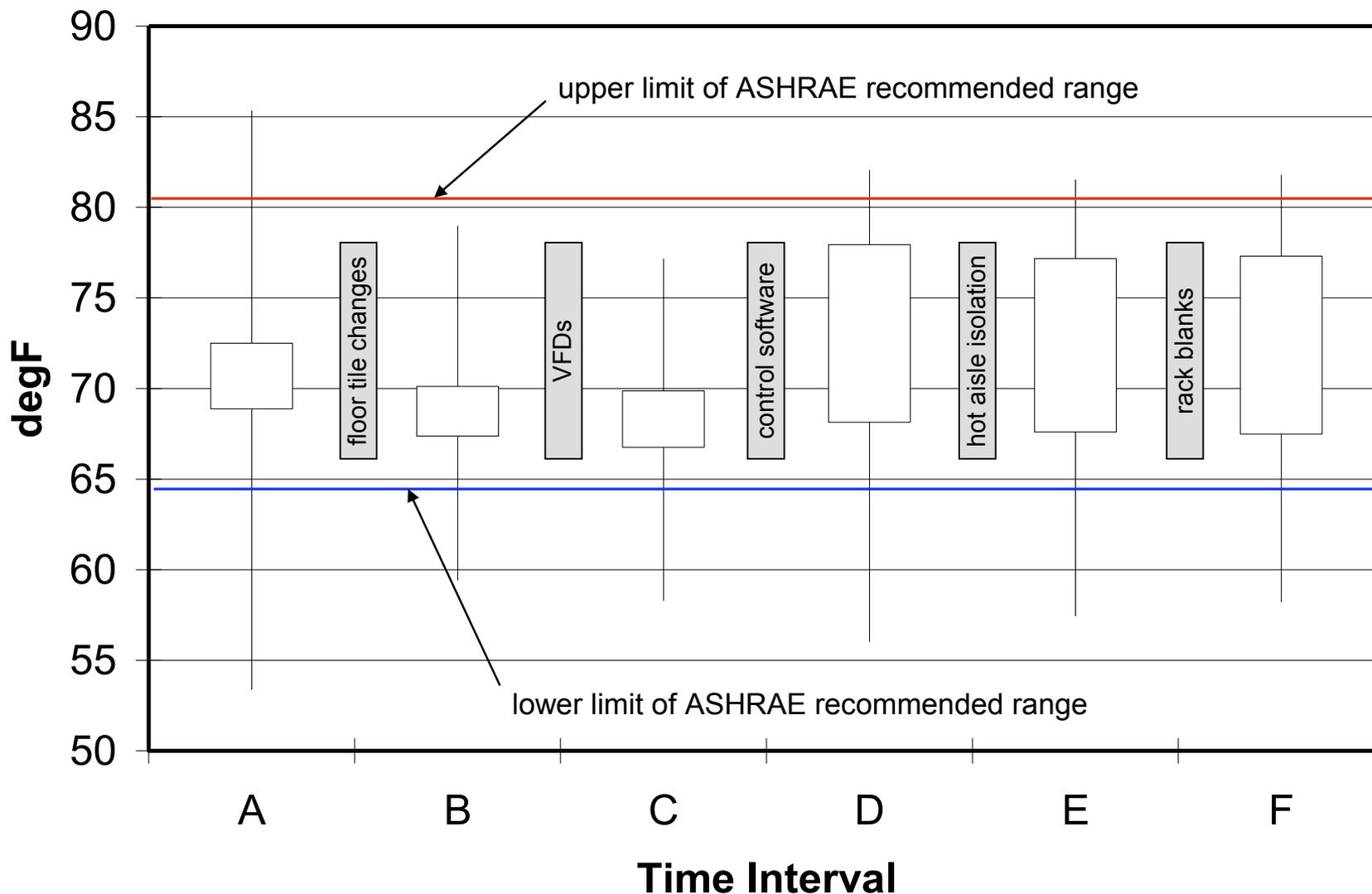


CRAH 3 influence after curtains

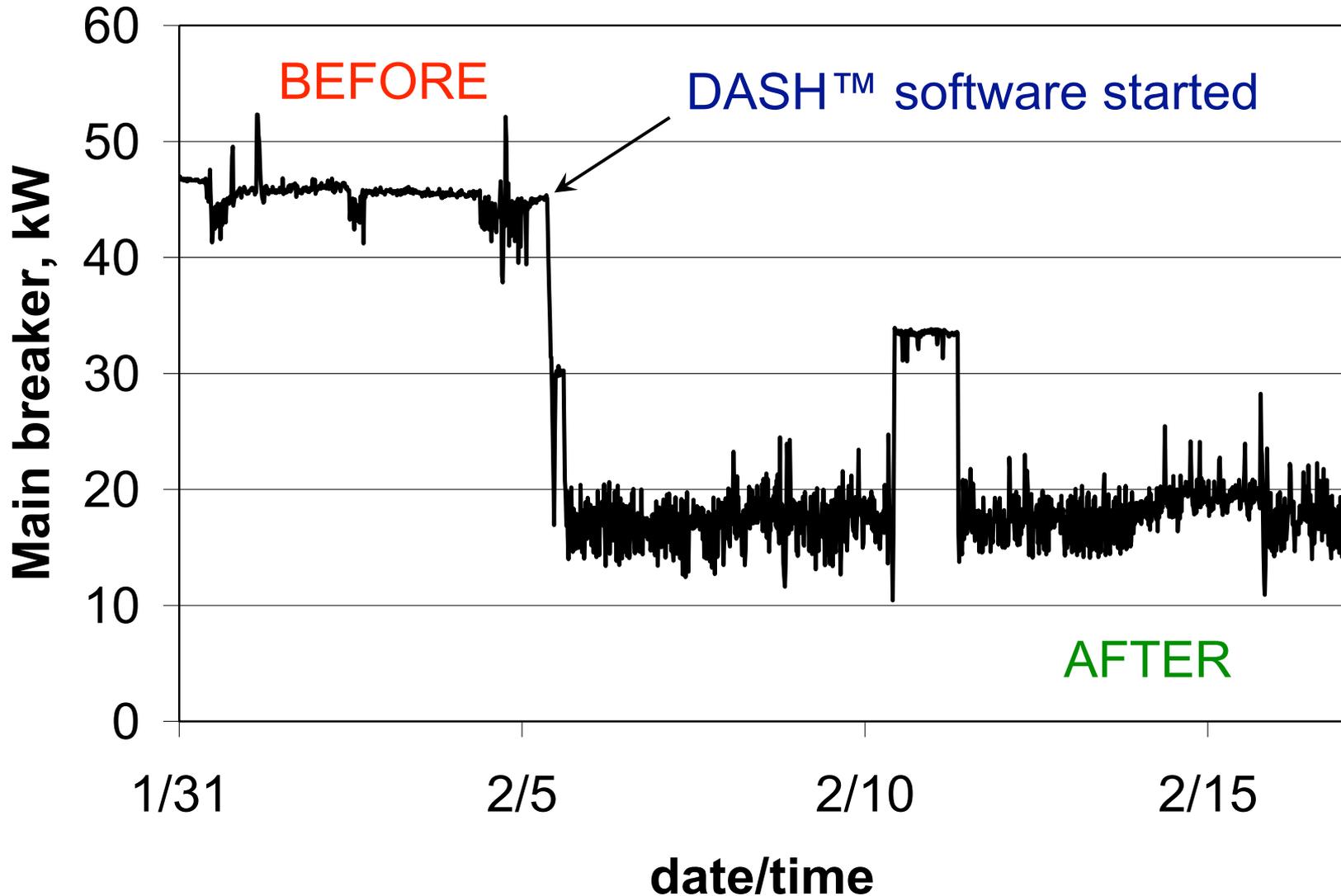


CRAH-03

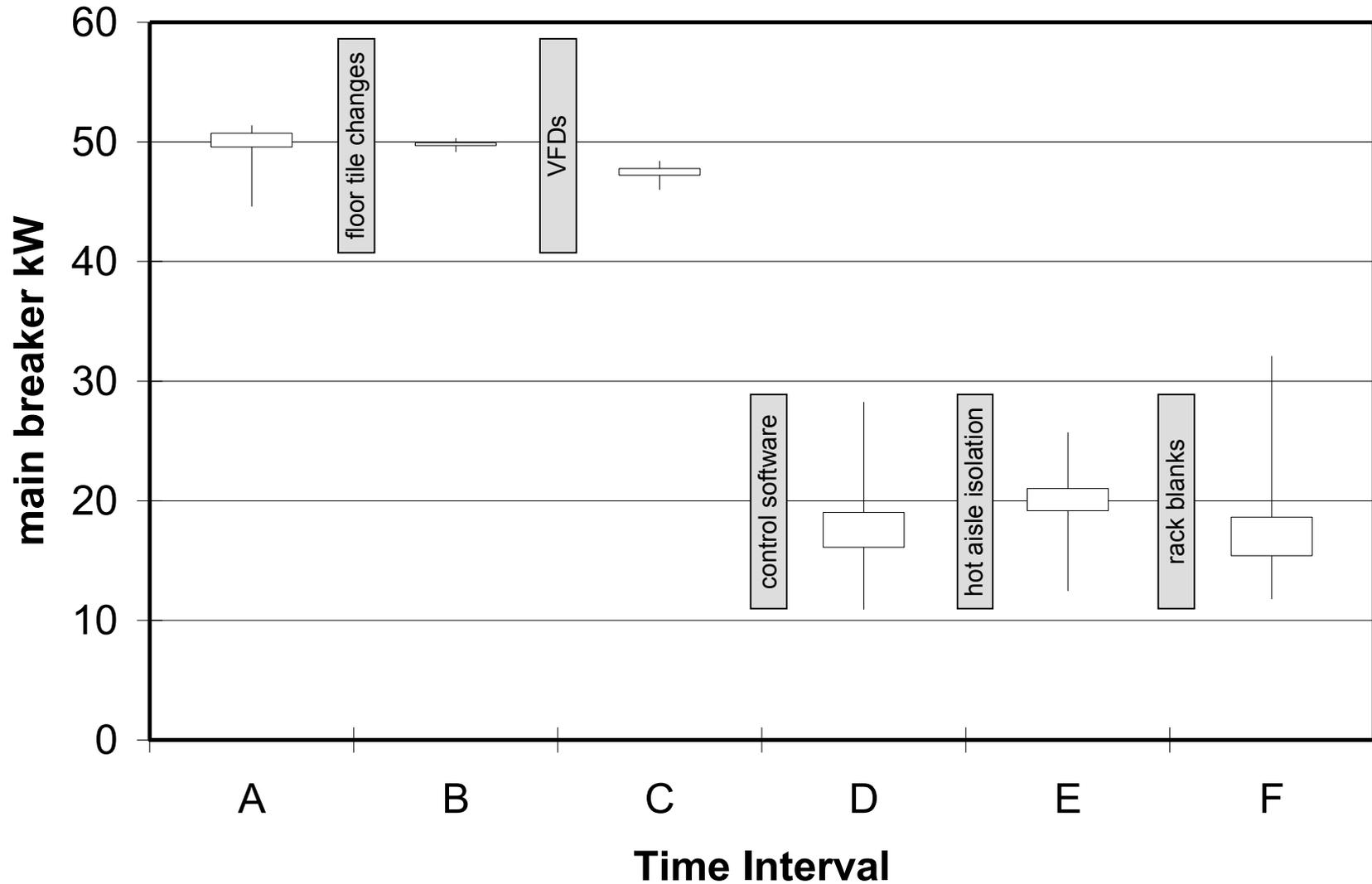
# WSN provided effect on cold-aisle temperatures:



# WSN software = Dramatic Energy Reduction...



# WSN provided feedback on CRAH Power reduction



- Total project cost-benefit
  - Cost: \$134,057
  - Savings: \$42,772
  - Payback: 3.1 years
  
- DASH cost-benefit (sensors and software)
  - Cost: \$56,824
  - Savings: \$30,564
  - Payback: 1.9 years

# Something new: How would you like to...

- **Reduce costs  
by saving energy...**

**AND**

- **Increase reliability  
by better managing your assets...**

***Interested?***

**Control your data center air conditioning  
by using the *built-in* IT server-equipment  
temperature sensors.**



- ❖ **Typically**, data center cooling devices use *return air temperature* sensors as the primary control-variable to adjust supply air temperature to the data center.
- **Promotes** energy inefficiency; a single-point, “open loop” control method without feedback.
- **Blended** server return air temperature; does not provide any specific information about a server’s temperature or health.

## ❖ **ASHRAE Guidelines:**

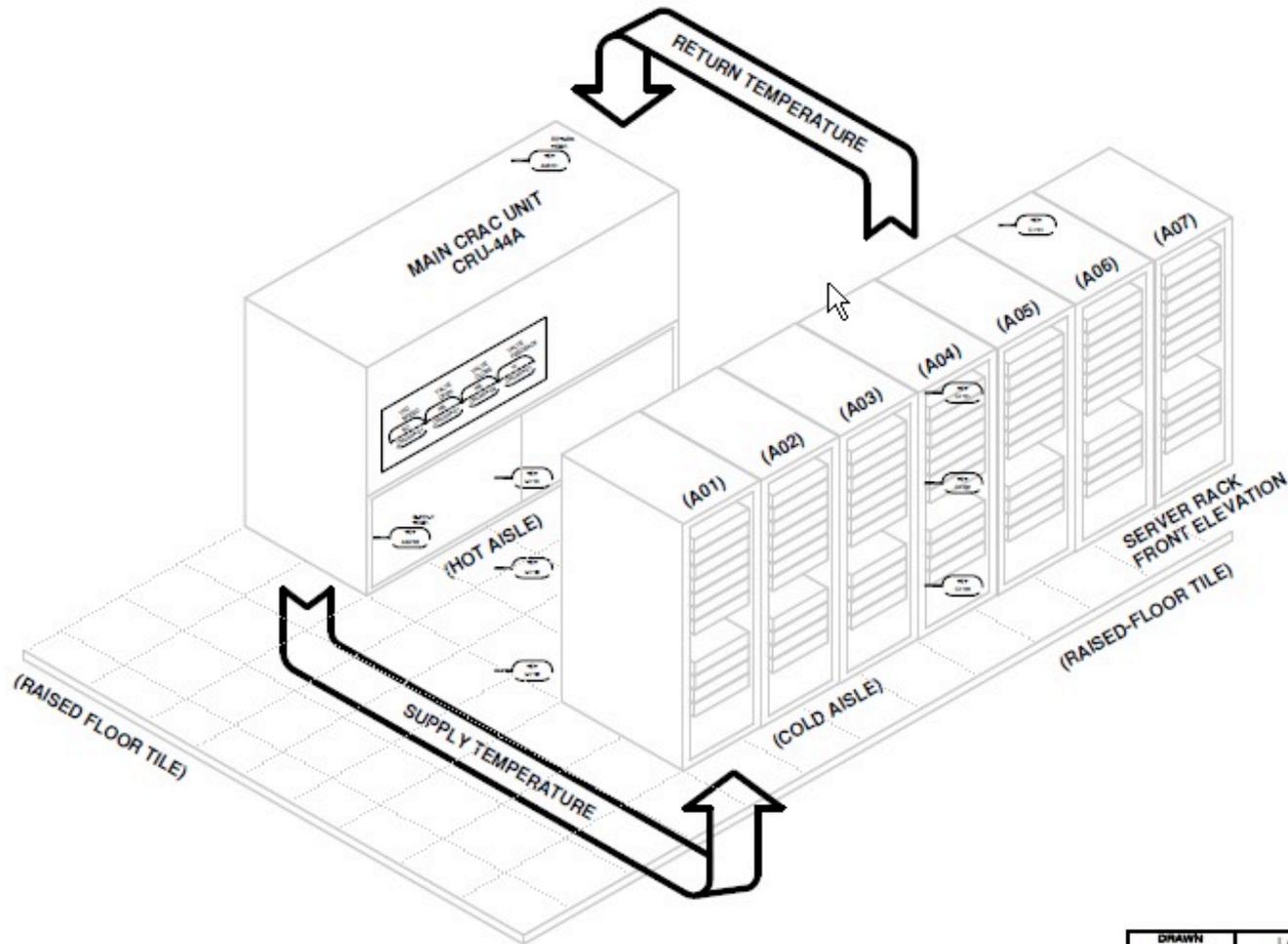
Server manufacturers have agreed; main operational parameter is server inlet air temperature.

## ❖ **Intelligent Platform Management Interface (IPMI):**

Server inlet air temperature is monitored and available from ICT manageability network, either IPMI or SNMP (simple network management protocol).

- ❖ **Demonstrated and Validated** successfully that computer servers can:
  - ✓ provide temperature information to a facility management system (FMS)
  - ✓ subsequently have the FMS determine and provide operating setpoint(s) for cooling system operations.
  
- ❖ **Completed** effective two-way communications and closed-loop control without significant interruption or reconfiguration of the ICT or FMS devices.

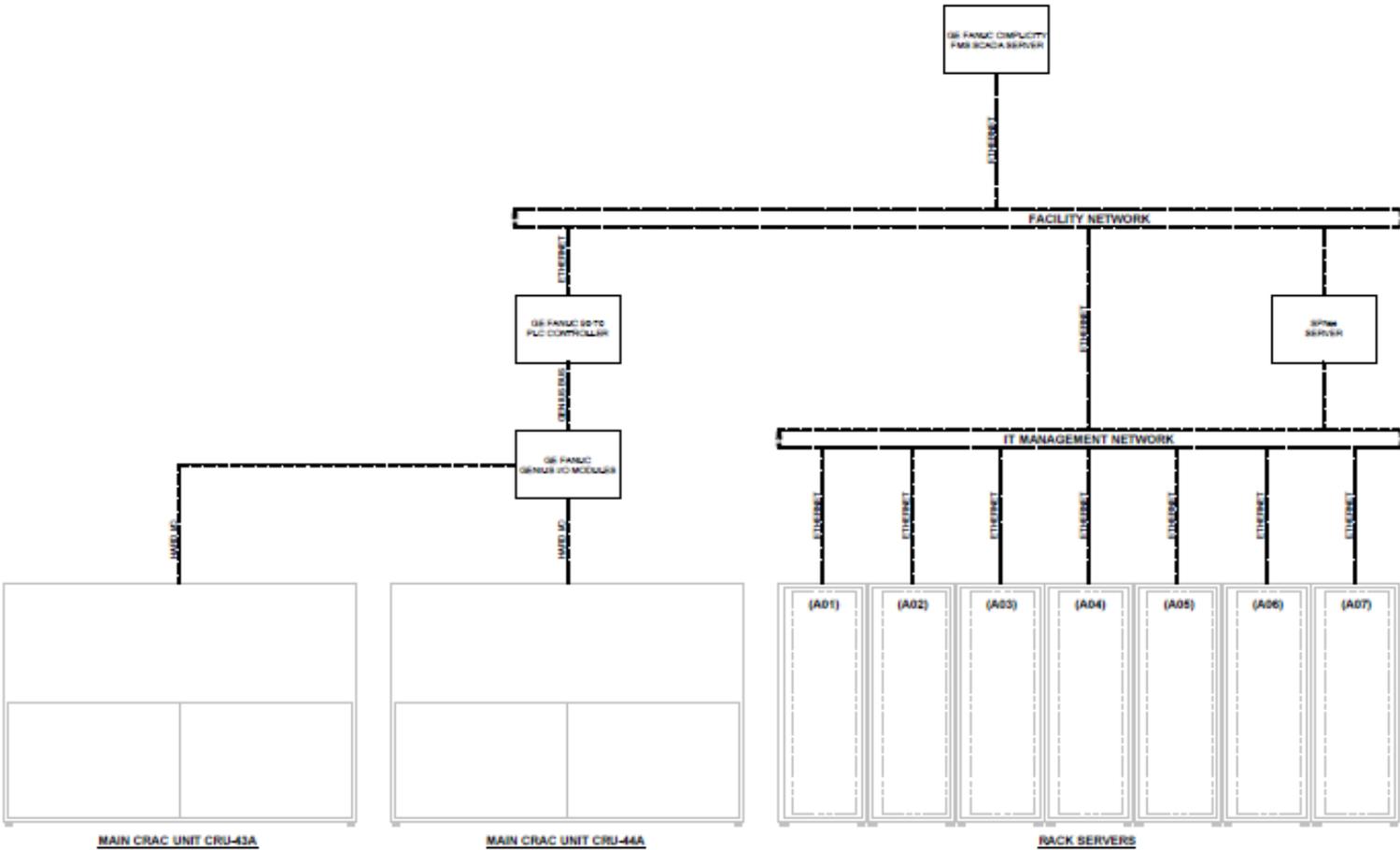
# Intel Data Center HVAC:



SC11 DATA CENTER HVAC MECHANICAL DIAGRAM

<b>DRAWN</b> RJM	LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY INTEL CORPORATION
<b>CHECKED</b> DS	
<b>DATE</b> 03/27/2009	
<b>DWG. NO.</b> LBNL-DIAG-1	<b>HVAC CONTROLS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT</b>

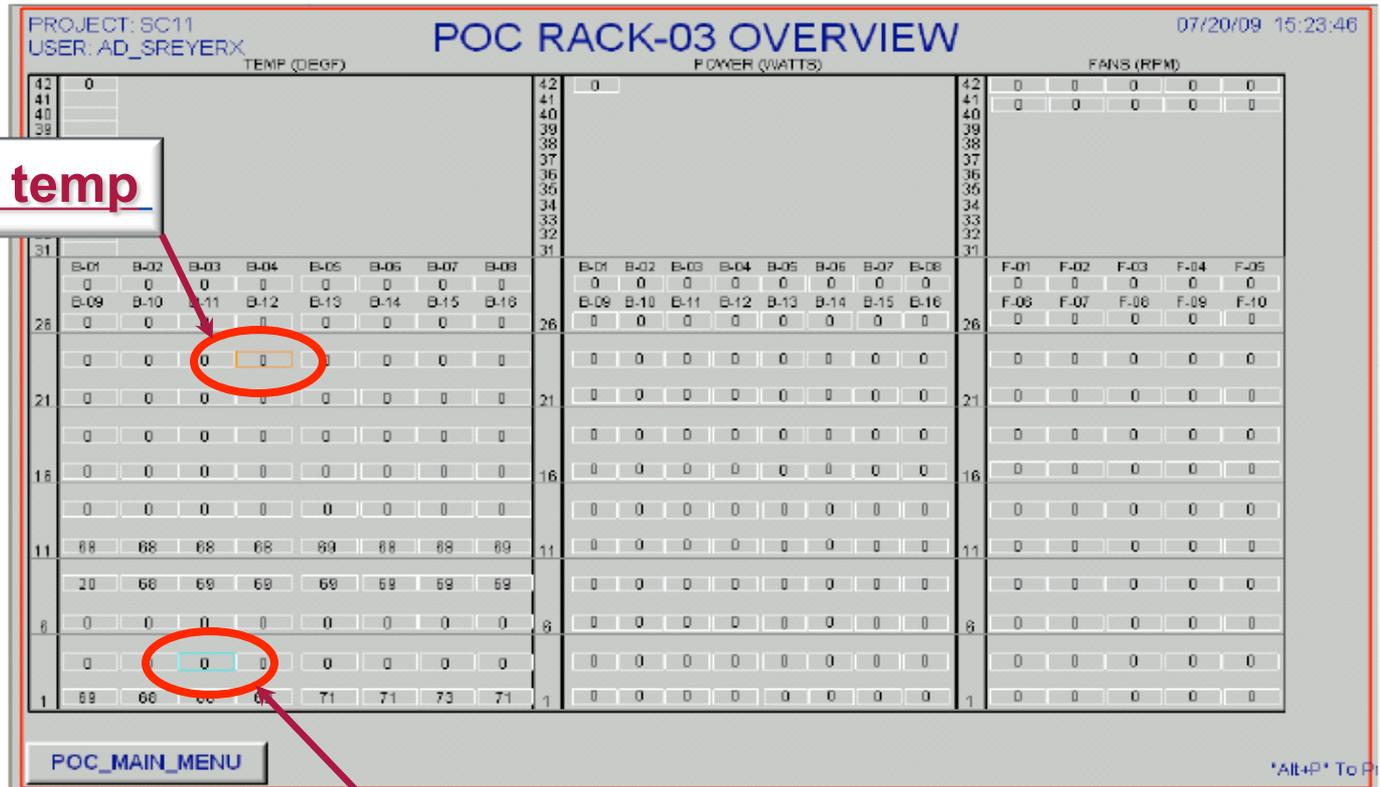
# Intel Data Center IT/server Communication



**SC11 DATA CENTER COMMUNICATION DIAGRAM**

DRAWN R2M CHECKED SS DATE 03/27/2009 DWG. NO. LBNL-DIAG-0	LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY INTEL CORPORATION  HVAC CONTROLS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
--	--

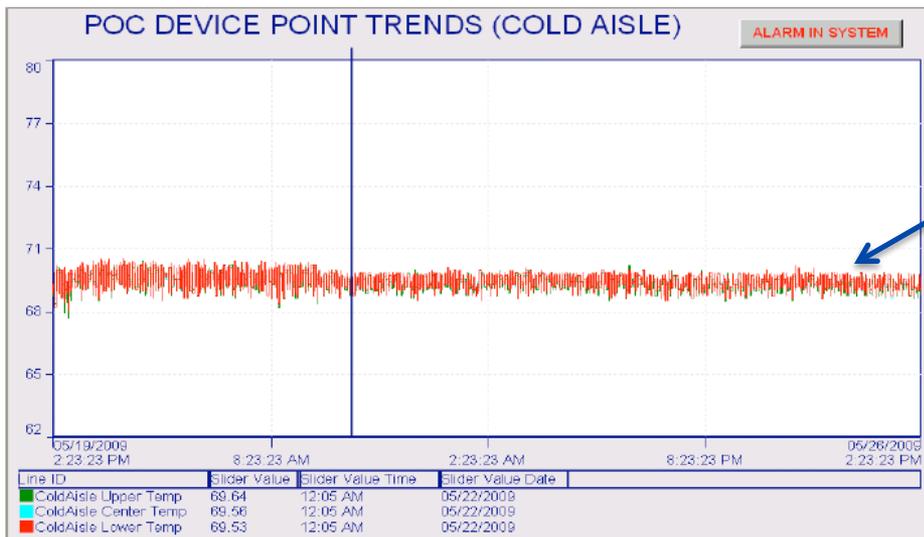
# Selected servers for BAS control input



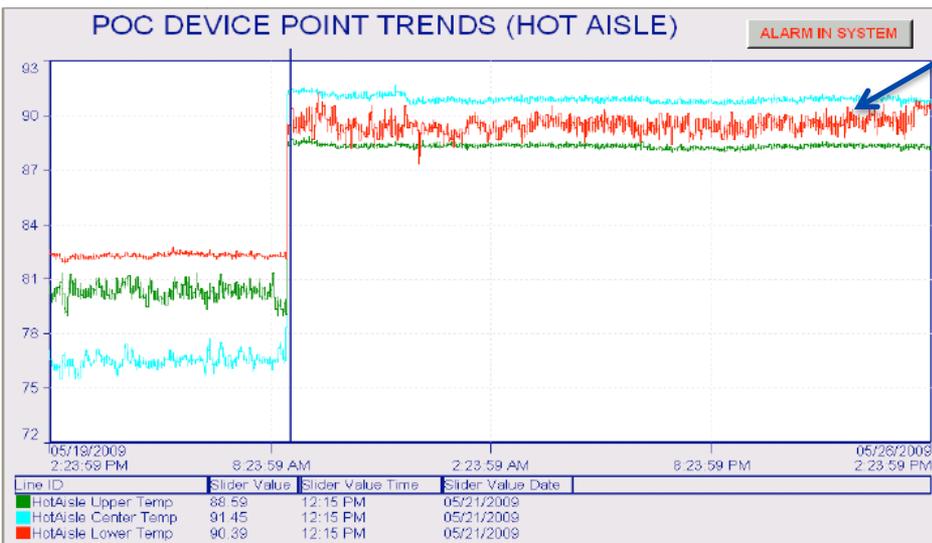
Higher server temp

Lower server temp

# Improved air management: Server Inlet & Exit Air Temp.

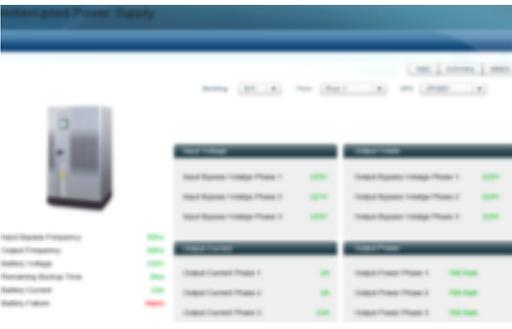
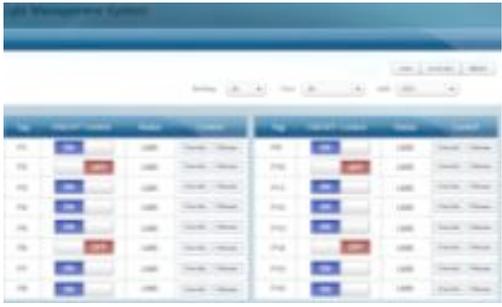
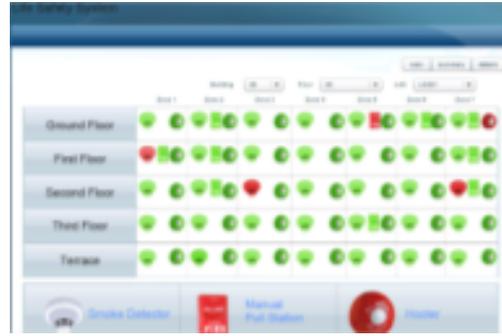


Server Inlet temperature maintained ...



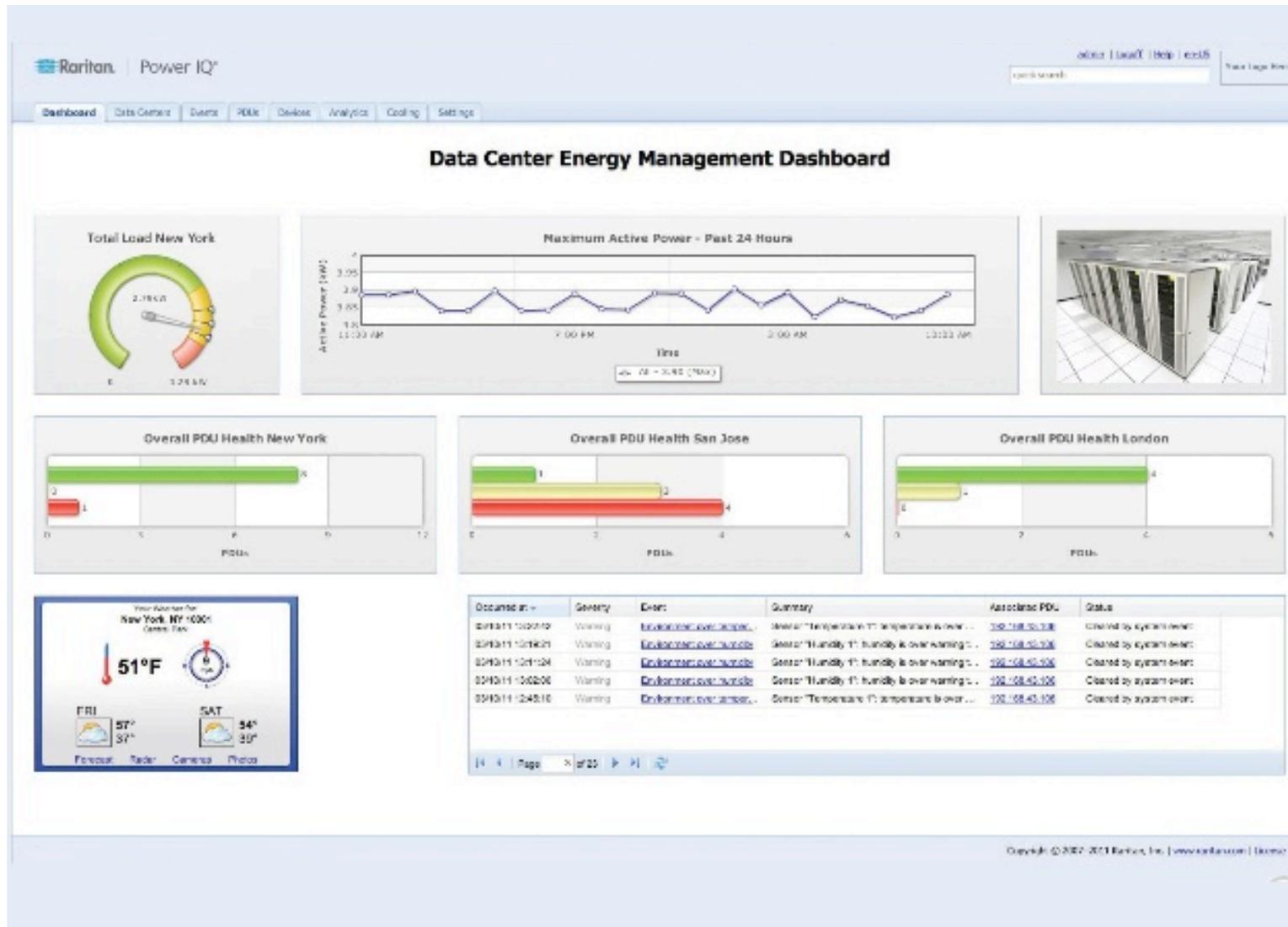
Server Exit temperature increased ...

Dashboards can display multiple system's information for monitoring and maintaining data center performance and health.

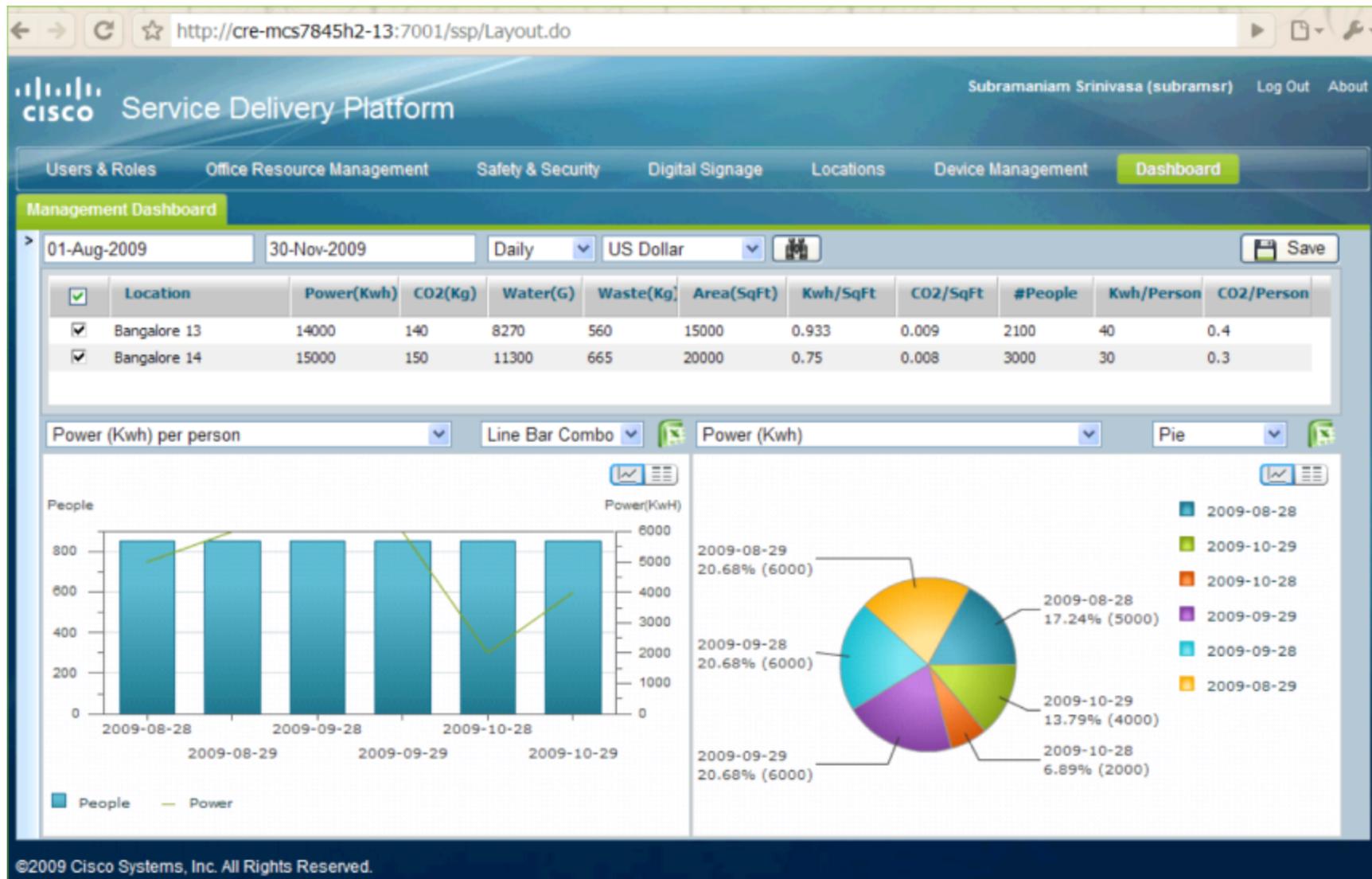


- Provide IT and HVAC system-wide and site-specific performance at a glance.
- Identify operational problems
- Ensure best performance, when supported.
- View effects of changes.
- Understand growth – predict expansion needs.
- Inform integrated decisions.
- Share experience and operational knowledge.

- Total energy cost.
  - Utility cost accounting.
- Baseline energy use.
  - Total energy consumption – electric, diesel.
  - Cooling – capacity, efficiency (kW/ton).
  - Power distribution – capacity, losses.
- Benchmarking PUE.
- Carbon reporting.
- Ratio of peak-to-base load.
- Component and system efficiency.
- Whole building energy anomaly detection.
- Demand response load shed prediction.
- Load prediction.
- HVAC & Electrical fault detection and diagnostics.



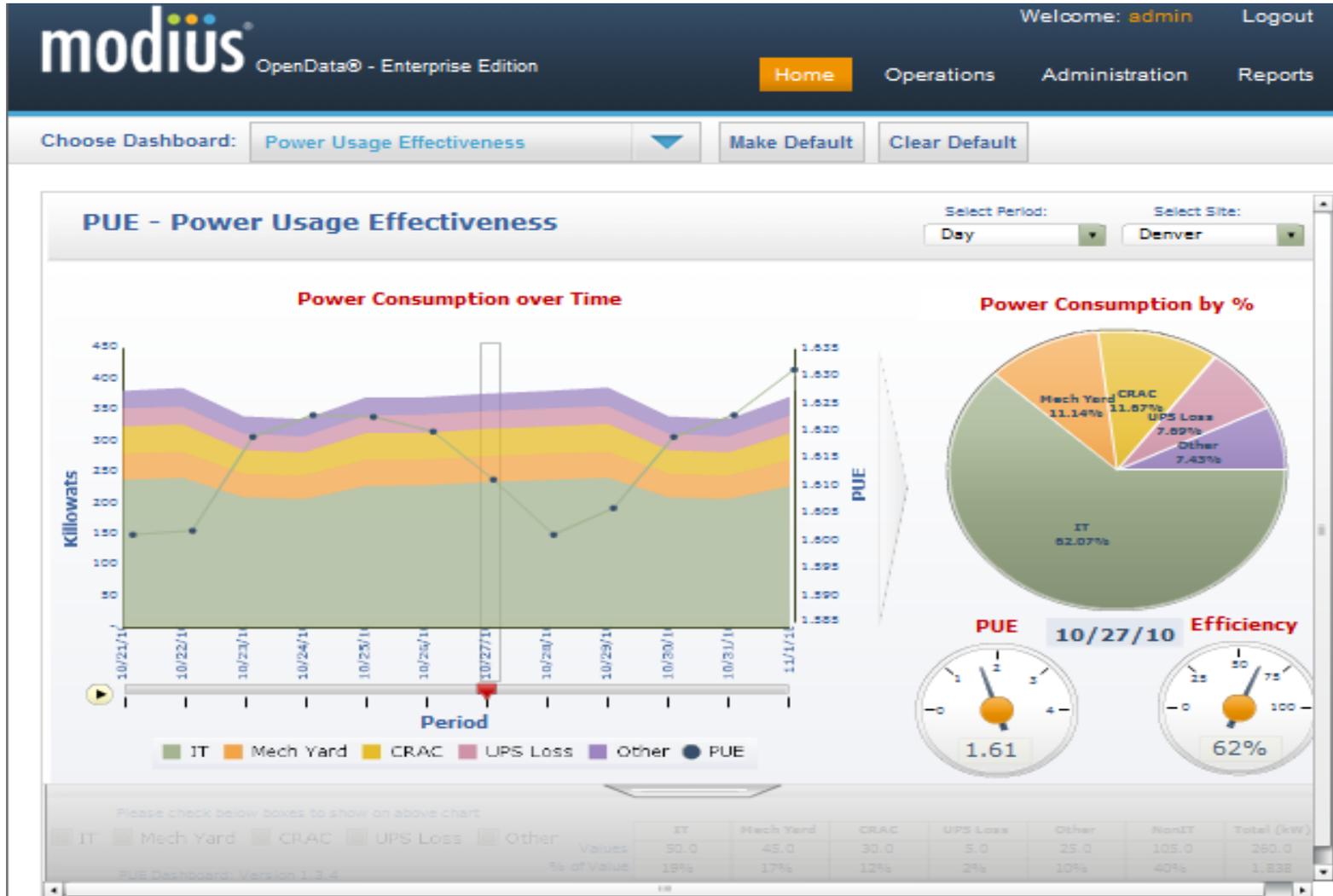
# Another Dashboard example...



# Another Dashboard example...



# Another Dashboard example...



- **Evaluate monitoring systems to enhance real-time efficiency.**
- **Use on-board server temperature sensors to control cooling system.**
- **Install dashboards to manage and sustain energy efficiency.**

# Questions?



## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

## Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
- **Data center environmental conditions – Bell**

## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
- Cooling systems – Bell

## Break

- Electrical systems - Sartor
- **Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor**



# Environmental Conditions

Presented by:  
Geoffrey C. Bell, PE



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

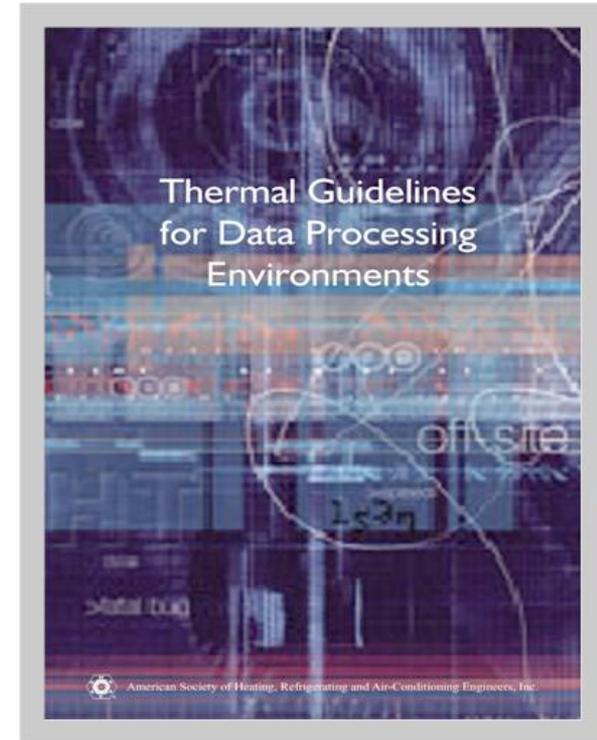


## What are the main HVAC Energy Drivers?

- IT Load
- Climate
- **Room temperature and humidity**

- Most data centers are over-cooled and have humidity control issues.
- ASHRAE and IT equipment manufacturers established recommended and allowable conditions for air delivered to the intake of the computing equipment.
- There is a lot of misunderstanding about cooling requirements for IT equipment.
- The IT equipment manufacturers developed the guidelines with ASHRAE and **recently agreed to even broader ranges of temperature and humidity.**

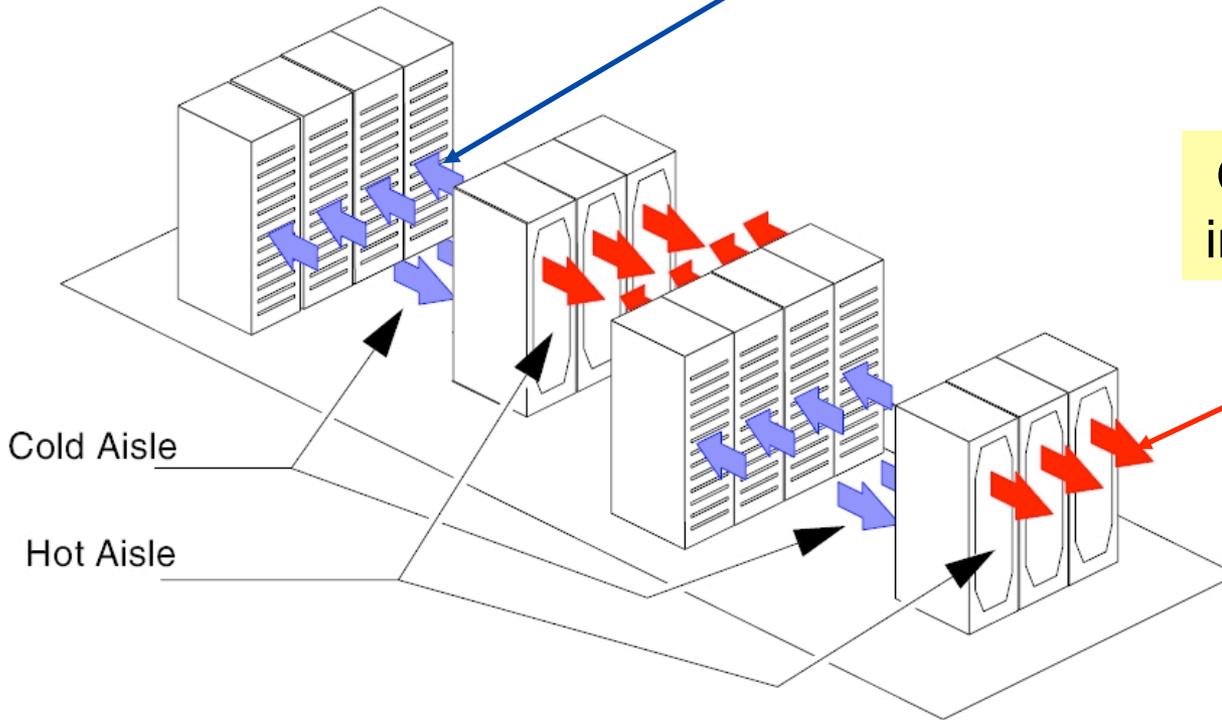
- ASHRAE's Thermal Guidelines provide common understanding between IT and facility staff.
- ASHRAE's Thermal Guidelines recommends temperature range of 18 °C to 27 °C (80.6°F) with “allowable” ranges much higher.
- Endorsed by IT manufacturers that enables large energy savings - especially when using economizers.
- **New ASHRAE white paper**
  - **Further broadens the allowable ranges.**
  - **Provides more justification for operation above recommended limits.**
  - **Six classes of equipment identified with wider allowable ranges from 32° C to 45° C (113°F).**



# Equipment environmental specification

Air Inlet to IT Equipment  
is the important  
specification to meet

Outlet temperature is *not*  
important to IT Equipment

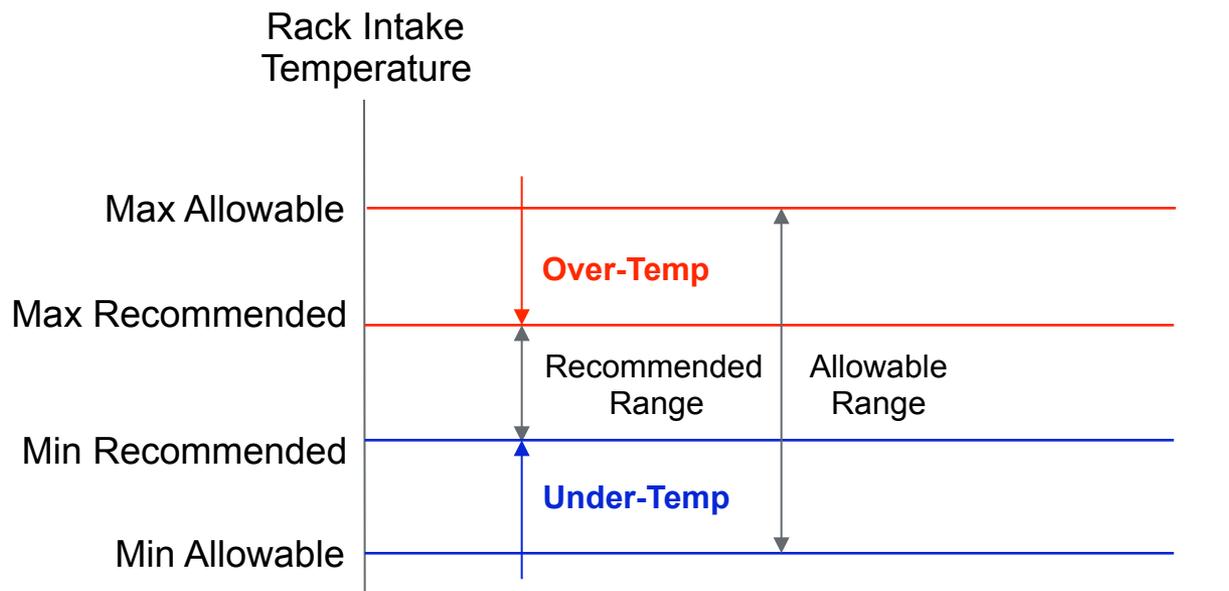


## Recommended range (statement of reliability):

Preferred facility operation; most values should be within this range.

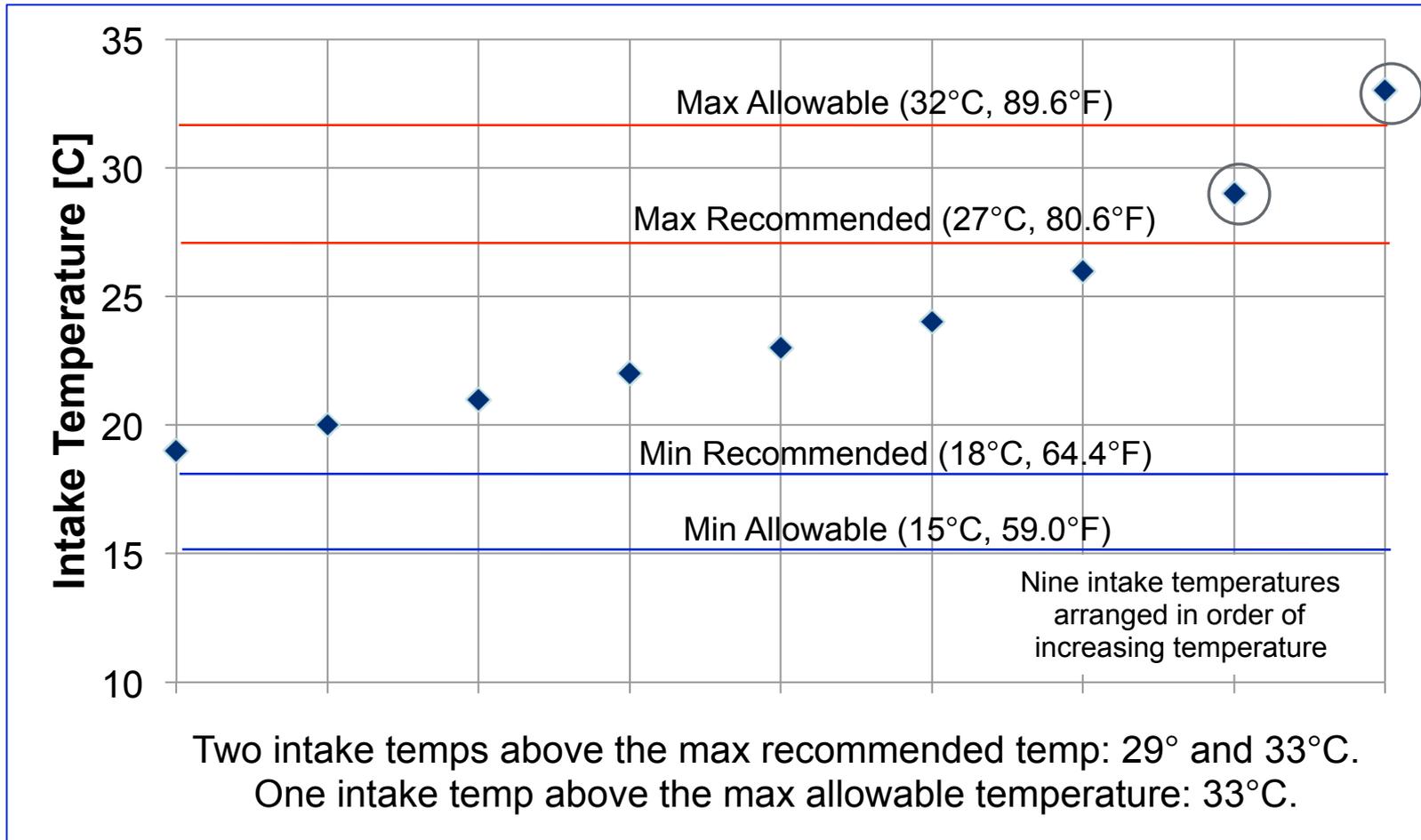
## Allowable range (statement of functionality):

Robustness of equipment; no values should be outside this range.



- ❖ The recommended range is a statement of reliability. For extended periods of time, the IT manufacturers recommend that data centers maintain their environment within these boundaries.
- ❖ The allowable range is a statement of functionality. These are the boundaries where IT manufacturers test their equipment to verify that the equipment will function.
- ❖ Human comfort should be a secondary consideration in data centers.

# Determining Compliance



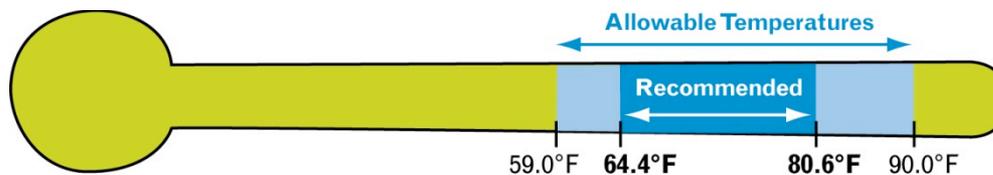
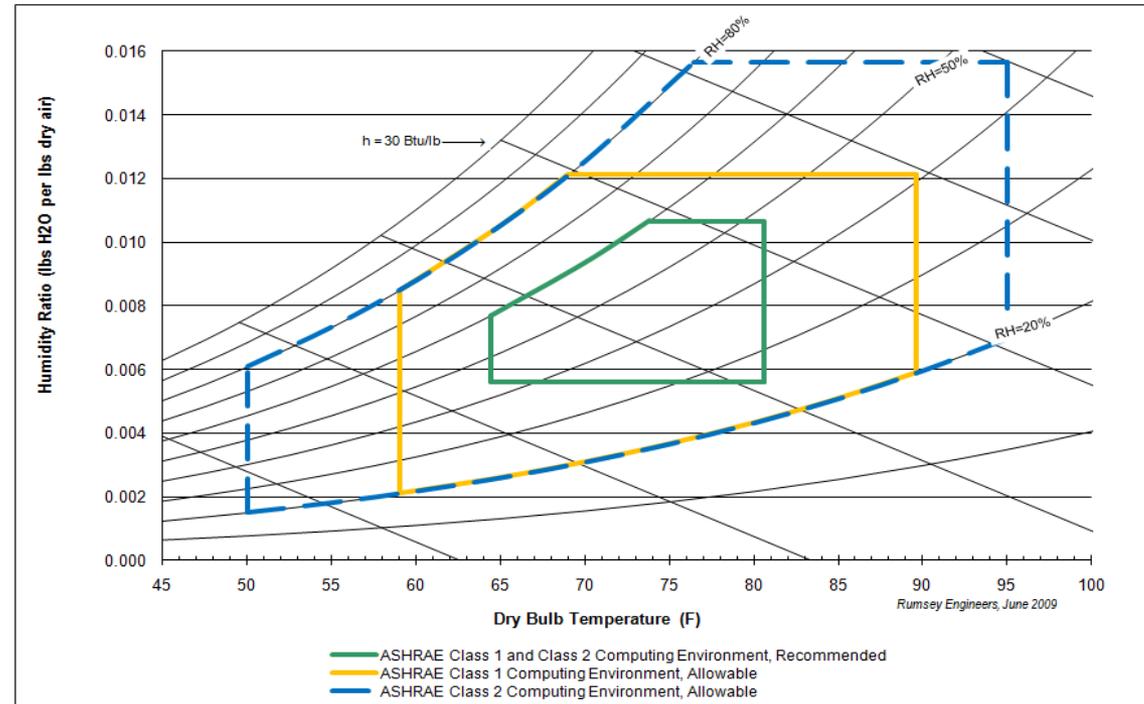
# Temperature Rate-of-Change Specifications

(@ Equipment Intake)	Maximum
Data Centers ASHRAE	20°C/hr
Telecom Centers NEBS	96.1°C/hr

Note very large differences in temperature rate-of-change. The NEBS specification was developed by estimating the potential gradients in case of cooling outages.

ASHRAE Reference: ASHRAE (2011); NEBS References: Telcordia (2001, 2002, and 2006)

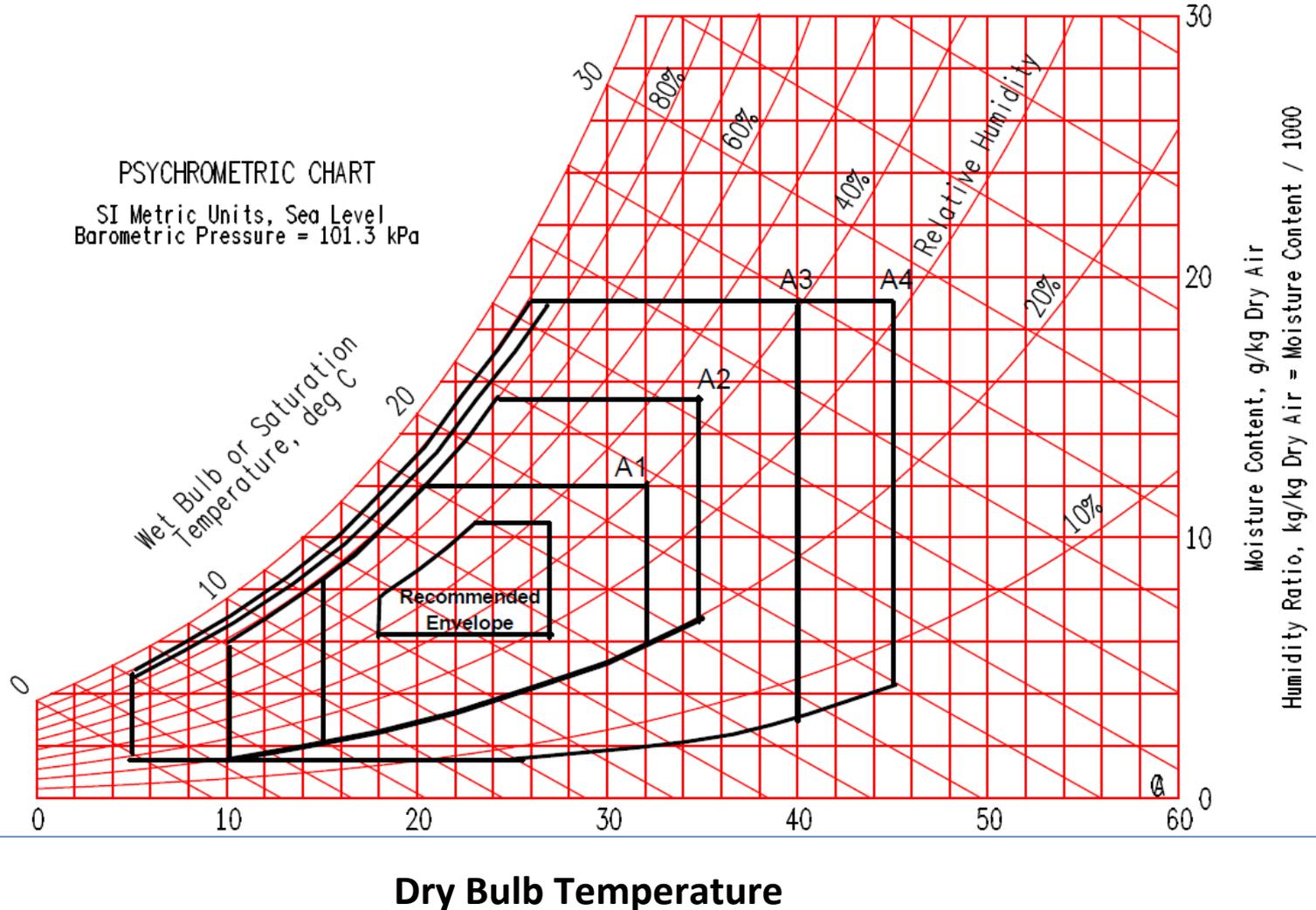
- Use ASHRAE Recommended and Allowable ranges of temperature and humidity



Classes (a)	Equipment Environmental Specifications							
	Product Operations (b)(c)					Product Power Off (c) (d)		
	Dry-Bulb Temperature (°C) (e) (g)	Humidity Range, non-Condensing (h) (i)	Maximum Dew Point (°C)	Maximum Elevation (m)	Maximum Rate of Change (°C/hr) (f)	Dry-Bulb Temperature (°C)	Relative Humidity (%)	Maximum Dew Point (°C)
Recommended (Applies to all A classes; individual data centers can choose to expand this range based upon the analysis described in this document)								
A1 to A4	18 to 27	5.5°C DP to 60% RH and 15°C DP						
Allowable								
A1	15 to 32	20% to 80% RH	17	3050	5/20	5 to 45	8 to 80	27
A2	10 to 35	20% to 80% RH	21	3050	5/20	5 to 45	8 to 80	27
A3	5 to 40	-12°C DP & 8% RH to 85% RH	24	3050	5/20	5 to 45	8 to 85	27
A4	5 to 45	-12°C DP & 8% RH to 90% RH	24	3050	5/20	5 to 45	8 to 90	27
B	5 to 35	8% RH to 80% RH	28	3050	NA	5 to 45	8 to 80	29
C	5 to 40	8% RH to 80% RH	28	3050	NA	5 to 45	8 to 80	29

2011 Thermal Guidelines for Data Processing Environments – Expanded Data Center Classes and Usage Guidance. White paper prepared by ASHRAE Technical Committee TC 9.9

# 2011 ASHRAE allowable ranges



## **ASHRAE 2011 White Paper's key conclusion considered potential for increased failures at higher temperatures:**

“For a majority of US and European cities, the air-side and water-side economizer projections show failure rates that are very comparable to a traditional data center run at a steady state temperature of 20°C.”

- ASHRAE is developing a white paper for liquid cooling.
  - A High Performance Computer (HPC) user group led by LBNL also developing recommended liquid cooling temperatures.
  - These two guidelines will merge into one document.
- HPC user group Goal:  
Provide liquid cooling without compressor cooling (no chillers) through cooling towers or dry coolers.

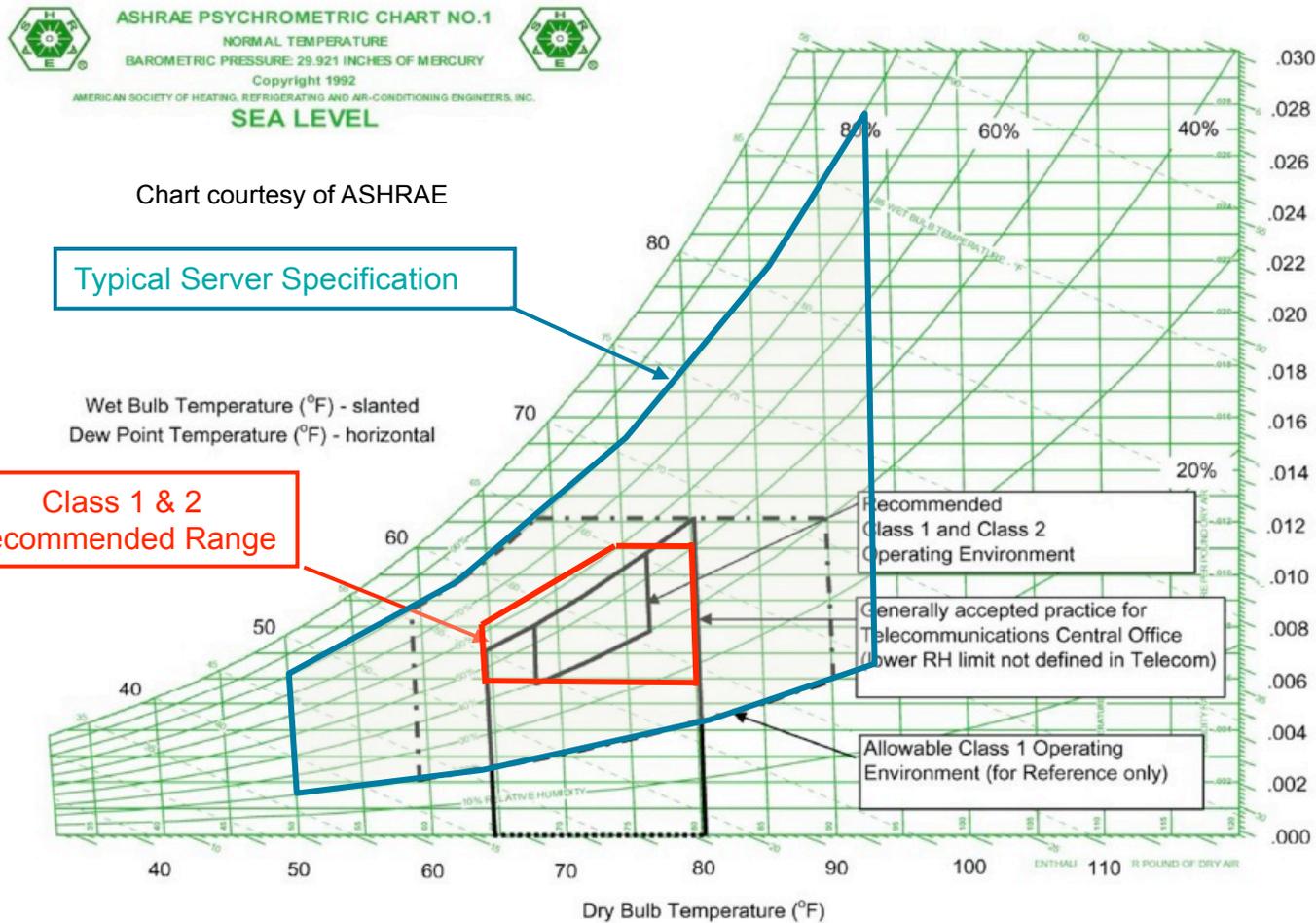
- **Design Conditions**
  - Maintain inlet conditions to the electronic equipment to the recommended ASHRAE Thermal Guideline between 41.9° F dew-point and 59° F dew-point and 60% RH or manufacturer's requirements.
  - Use dew-point control, NOT %RH.
  - The need for any humidity control needs more study.
- **Eliminate dehumidification, if possible**
  - High humidity is usually limited by cooling coil dew-point temperature.
- **Use more efficient means of dehumidification**
  - Control make-up air humidity and turn off CRAC humidification control

- Some contaminants (hygroscopic salts) with high humidity can deposit and bridge across circuits over time
- Operating with high humidity (>60%) in an environment with high concentrations of particulates could therefore be a problem.
- **Normal building filtration is effective in removing particulates**
- Operating with high humidity (>60%) in areas with gaseous contamination could cause problems. More study is needed in this area, however few locations have such conditions.

## Electrostatic discharge

- Industry practices
  - Telecom has no lower limit (personnel grounding)
  - Electrostatic Discharge Association removed humidity control as a primary ESD control measure in ESD/ANSI S20.20
  - IT equipment is qualified to withstand ESD and it is grounded
  - Many centers eliminate humidification with no adverse effects
- Recommended procedures
  - Personnel grounding
  - Cable grounding
- Recommended equipment
  - Grounding wrist straps
  - Grounded plate for cables
  - Grounded flooring

## Server Performance Specifications Generally Exceed ASHRAE Ranges



## Environmental

### Temperature:

- Operating: 10° to 35°C (50° to 95°F)
- Storage: -40° to 65°C (-40° to 149°F)

### Relative humidity

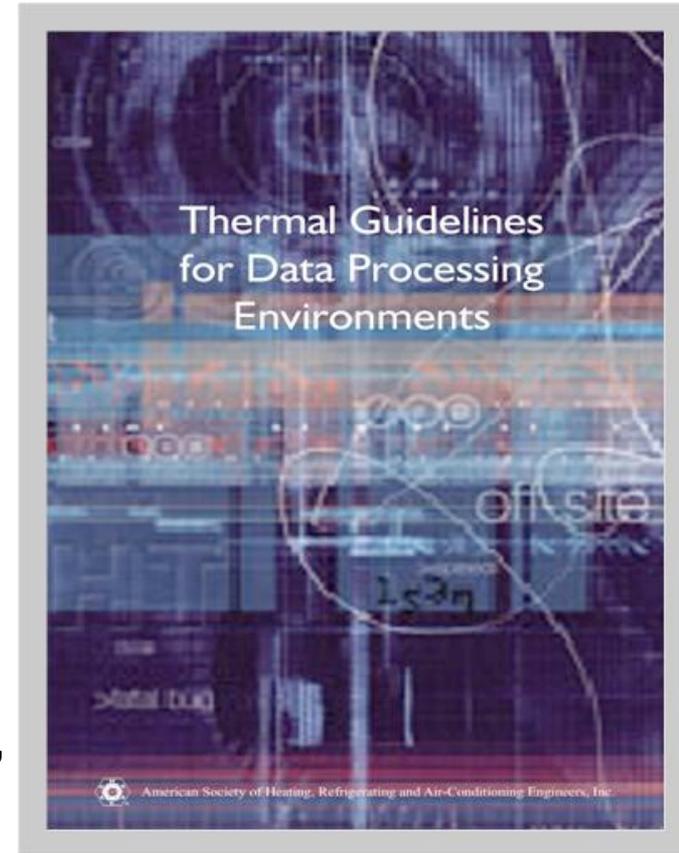
- Operating: 20% to 80% (non-condensing)
- Storage: 5% to 95% (non-condensing)

### Altitude

- Operating: -15 to 3048 m (-50 to 10,000 ft)
- Storage: -15 to 10,668 m (-50 to 35,000 ft)

# Environmental conditions: Summary

- If the data center is cold, then an efficiency opportunity exists.
- Many server manufacturers design for even harsher conditions than ASHRAE guidelines.
- Data center facilities should be designed for IT equipment performance
  - *not people comfort.*
- Most data center computer room air conditioners (CRACs) are controlled based on the return air temperature to the unit
  - *this needs to change.*
- Perceptions, based on 20<sup>th</sup> Century thinking, lead many data centers to operate much colder than necessary; often less than 68 °F at the inlet to IT equipment
  - *this needs to change.*



# Questions?



# Let's take a Break for Lunch!

## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

## Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
- Data center environmental conditions – Bell

## Lunch

## Afternoon

- **Airflow management- Sartor**
- **Cooling systems – Bell**

## Break

- **Electrical systems - Sartor**
- **Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor**



# Airflow Management

Effective Application and Use in Data Centers

Presented by: Dale Sartor, P.E.



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



Federal Energy Management Program



# Air Management: The Early Days at LBNL

**It was cold but hot spots were everywhere**



**Fans were used to redirect air**

**High flow tiles reduced air pressure**



**What are the benefits of hot- and cold-aisles?**

**How does air flow in a data center?**

- **Detect airflow mixing and short-circuits**
- **Discover airflow Identify hot spots**

**What can be done to improve under-floor air distribution?**

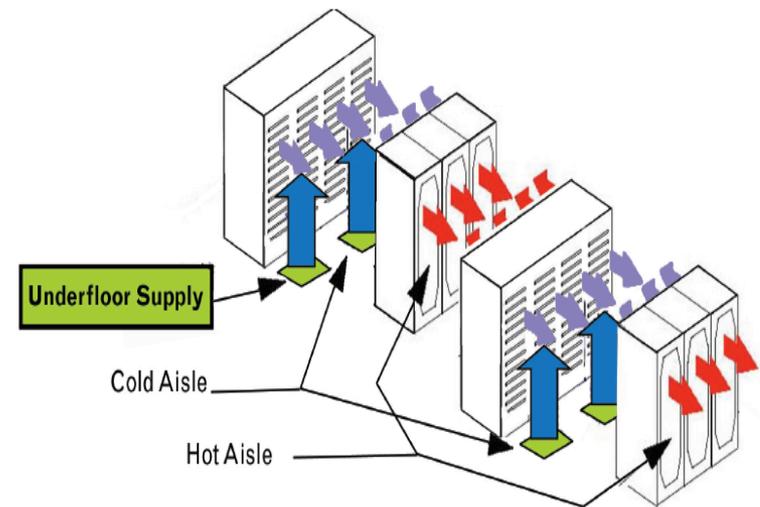
- **Manage under-floor pressurization**
- **Relocate supply tiles to cold aisles**
- **Select and optimize supply tiles**

**Isolate hot and cold aisles**

**What alternatives to under-floor air distribution increase efficiency?**

- **Overhead cooling**
- **In-row and rack cooling**

- Typically, more air circulated than required
- Air mixing and short circuiting leads to:
  - Low supply temperature
  - Low Delta T
- Use hot and cold aisles
- Improve isolation of hot and cold aisles
  - Reduce fan energy
  - Improve air-conditioning efficiency
  - Increase cooling capacity



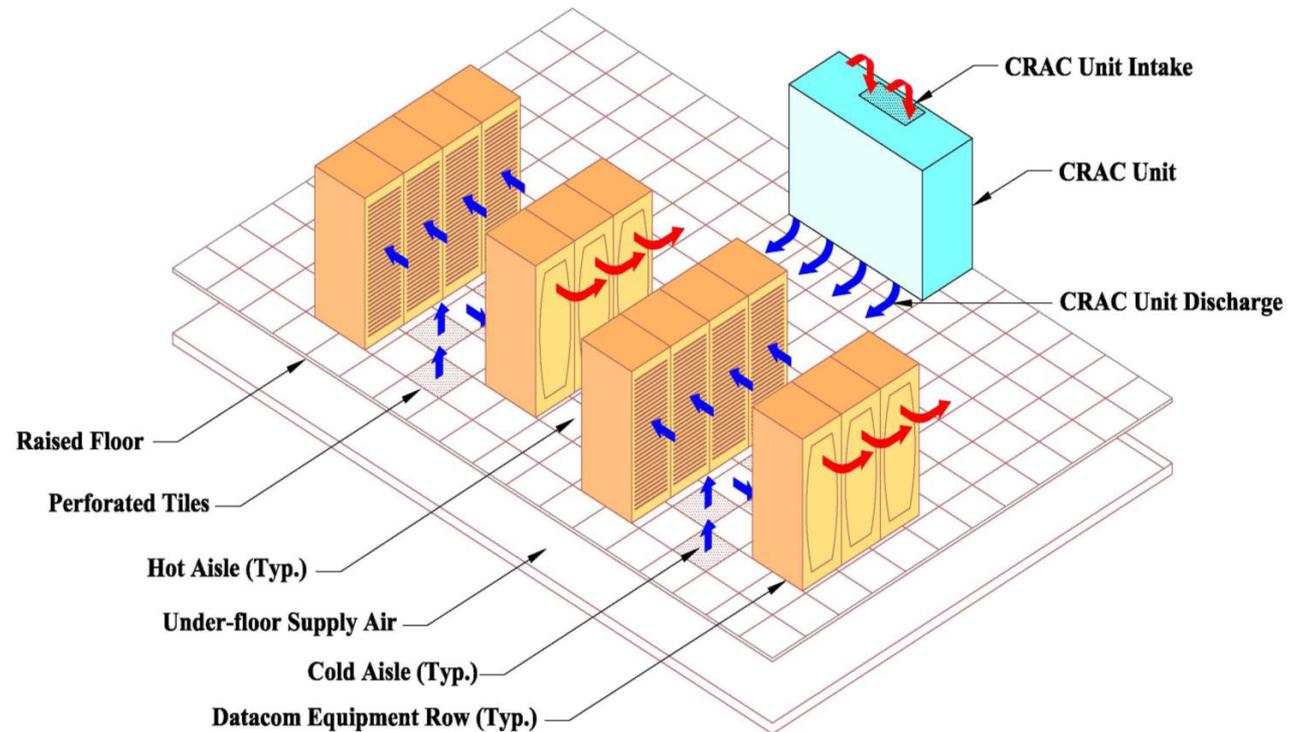
Hot aisle / cold aisle configuration decreases mixing of intake & exhaust air, promoting efficiency.

# What are the benefits of hot- and cold-aisles?

## ➤ Improves equipment intake air conditions by separating cold from hot airflow.

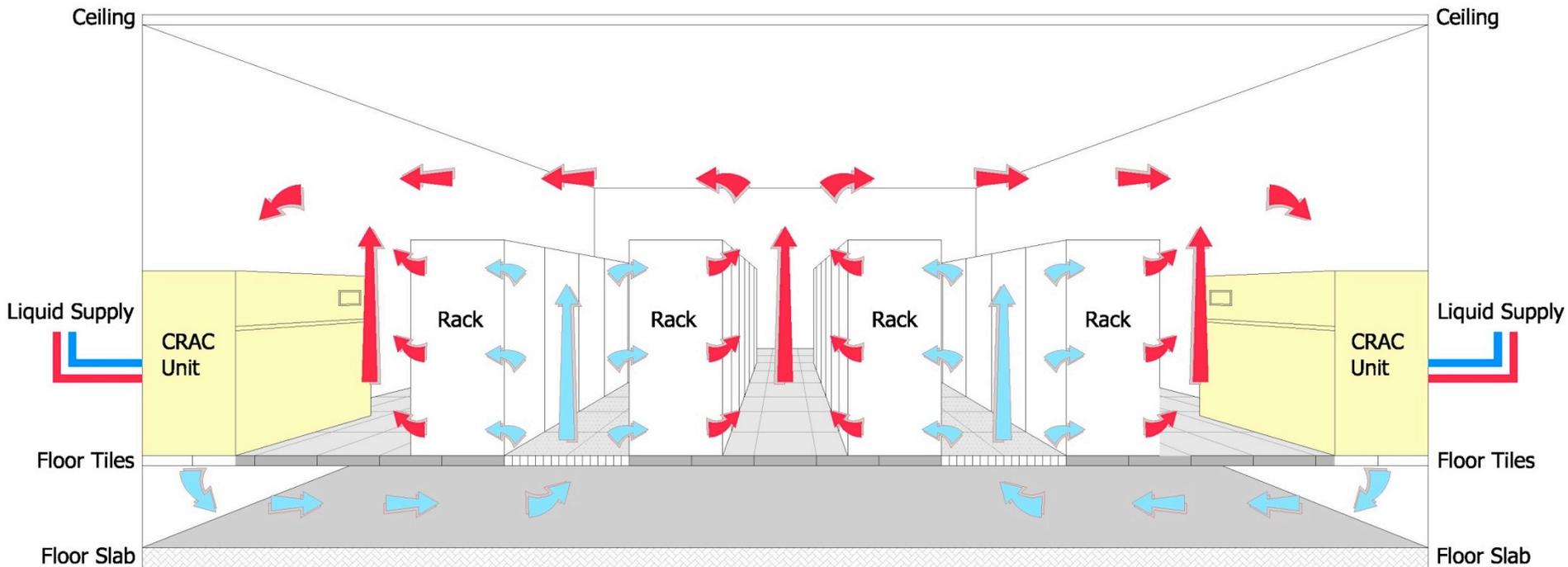
Preparation:

- ✓ Arranging racks with alternating hot and cold aisles.
- ✓ Supply cold air to front of facing servers.
- ✓ Hot exhaust air exits into rear aisles.



Graphics courtesy of DLB Associates

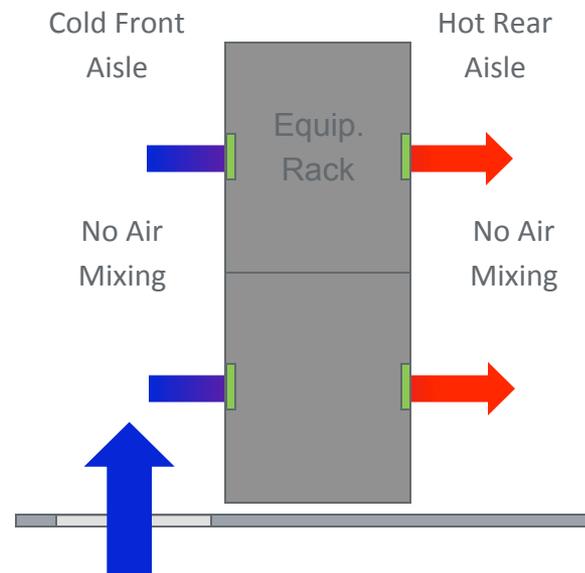
# Typical Vertical Under Floor (VUF) Air-Distribution System



Cooling airflow is supplied to the equipment racks through perforated tiles via an under-floor distribution system that is connected to CRAC or CRAH units.

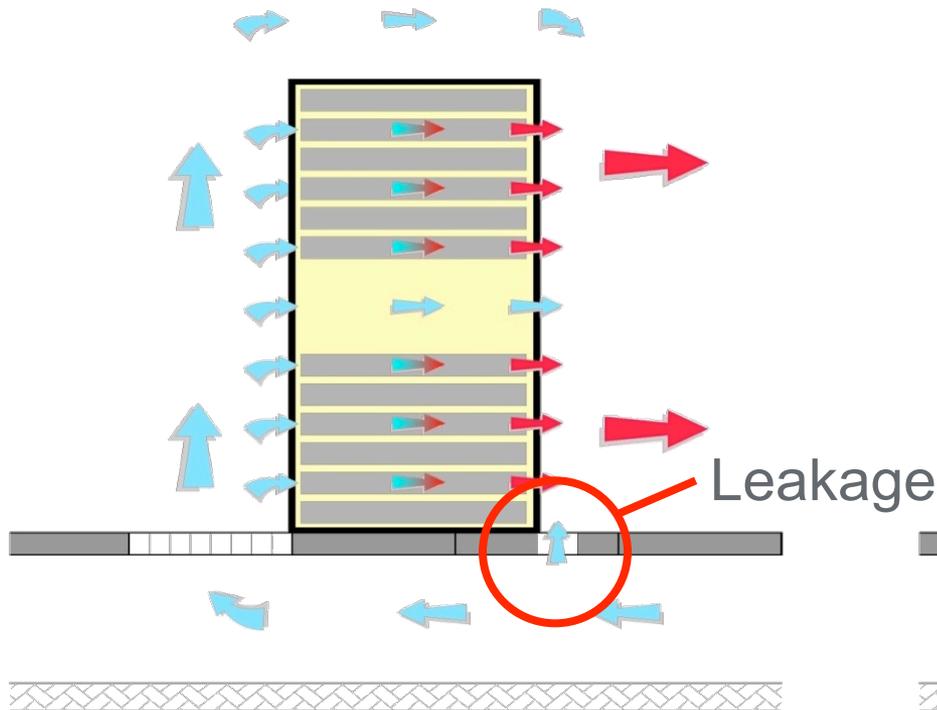
# Separating Cold from Hot Airflow...

- Supply cold air as close to rack inlet as possible.
- Defeat mixing with ambient air and hot rack exhaust air.
- Flow air from the cold front aisle to the rear hot aisle
- Reduce mixing of hot and cold air streams to stabilize thermal conditions.



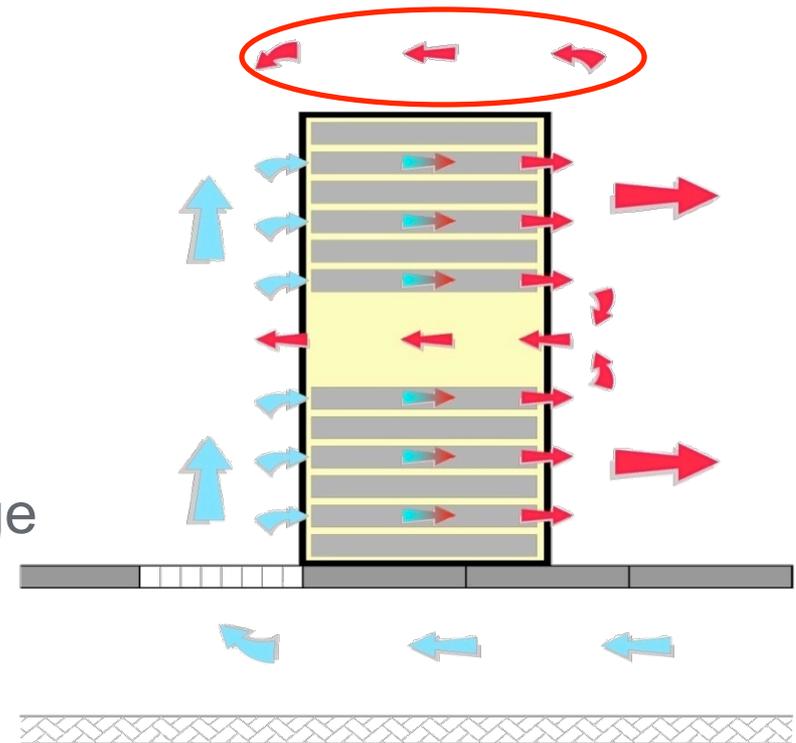
# Reduce Bypass and Recirculation

## Bypass Air / Short-Circuiting...



Wastes cooling capacity.

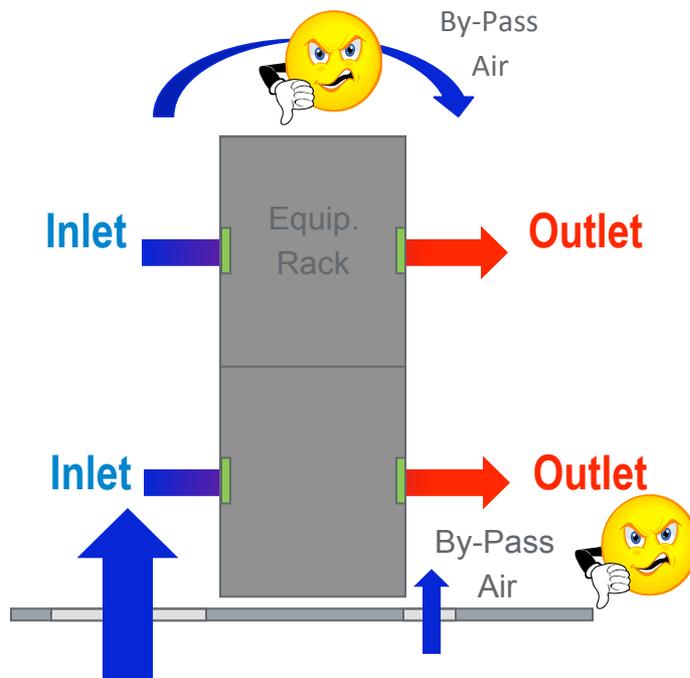
## Recirculation...



Increases inlet temperature to servers.

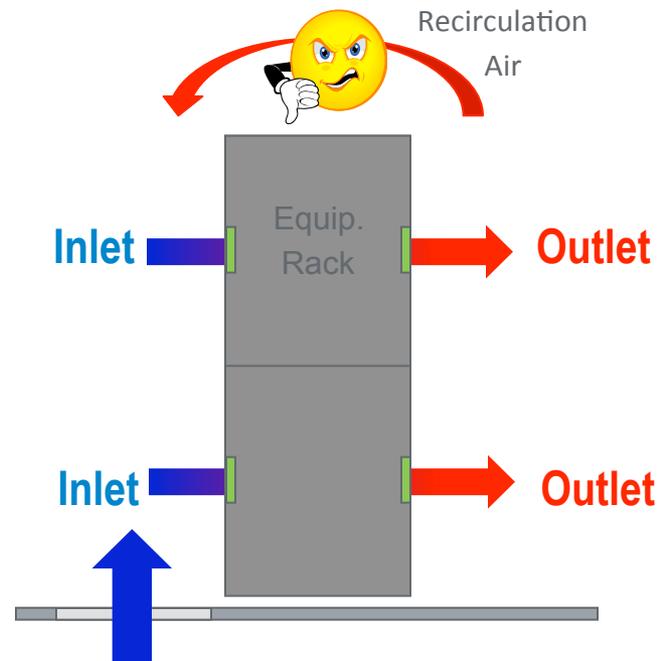
## Some common causes:

- Too much supply airflow
- Misplaced perforated tiles
- Leaky cable penetrations
- Too high tile exit velocity

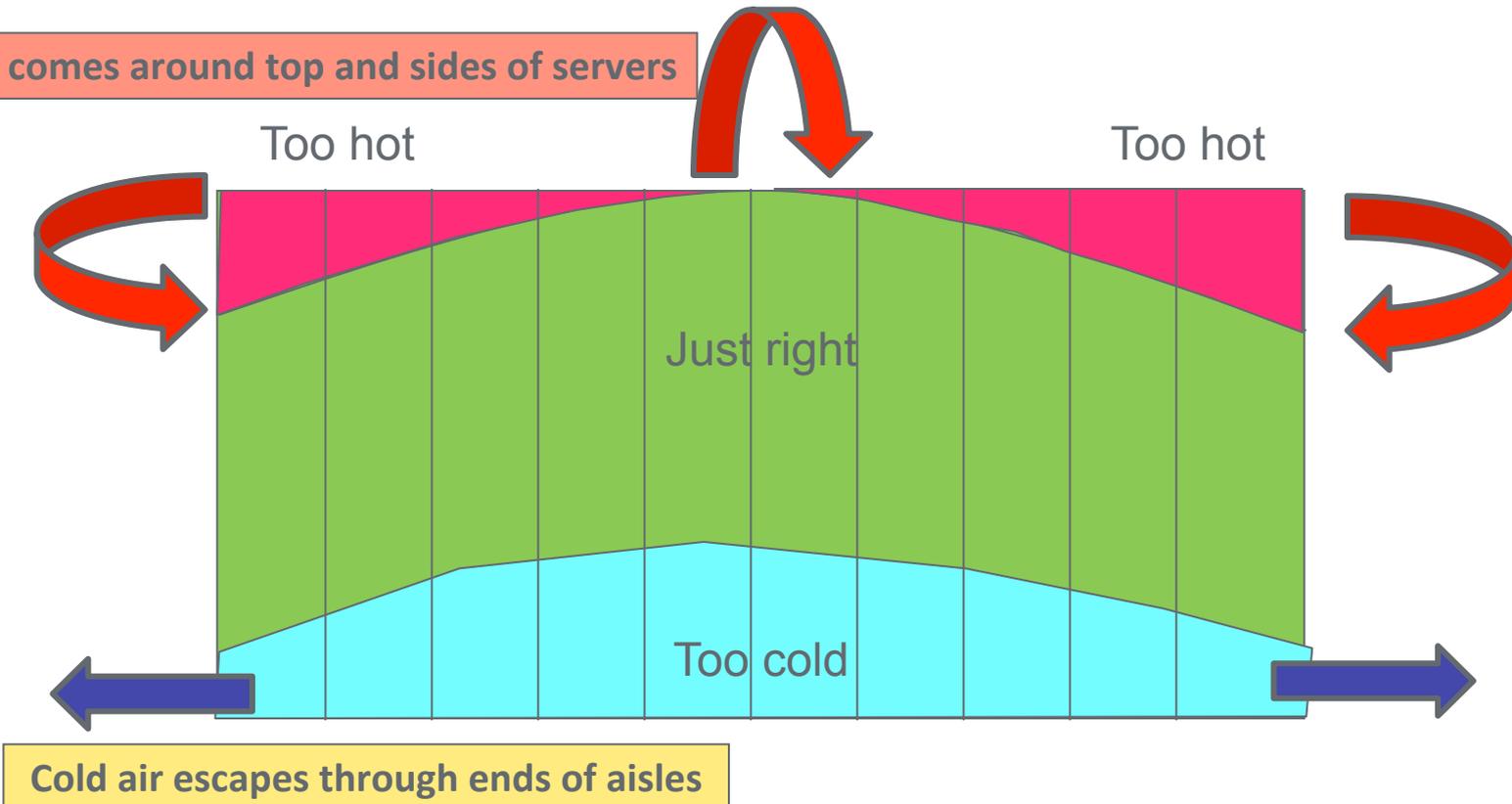


## Some common causes:

- Too little supply airflow
- Lack of blanking panels
- Gaps between racks
- Short equipment rows



# Typical temperature profile with under-floor supply



Elevation at a cold aisle looking at racks

*There are numerous references in ASHRAE. See for example V. Sorell et al; "Comparison of Overhead and Underfloor Air Delivery Systems in a Data Center Environment Using CFD Modeling"; ASHRAE Symposium Paper DE-05-11-5; 2005*

## Goals:

- Manage under-floor pressurization
- Improve Airflow Distribution

## Tasks...

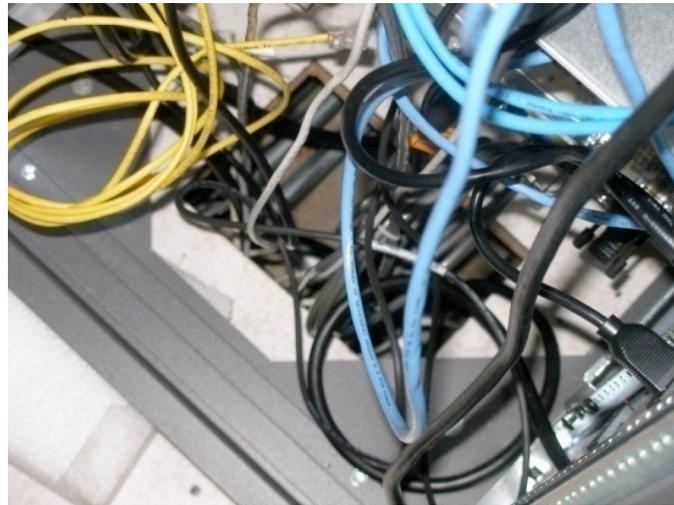
- ✓ Maintain Raised-Floor Seals
- ✓ Manage Blanking Panels
- ✓ Reduce Cable Congestion
- ✓ Resolve Airflow Balancing
  - Select tiles with care
- ✓ Evaluate Perforated Floor Tiles
  - Relocate supply tiles to cold aisles

- **In theory, a raised under-floor plenum is at a single static pressure that results in even airflow throughout the data center.**
- **In practice, significant pressure variations within the plenum from:**
  - Air leaks.
  - Cables and congestion in the floor plenum.
  - Increased velocity pressures near supply air fans.
  - Raised floor not tall enough.
- **Consequently, pressure variations result in:**
  - Non-uniform airflow distribution causing hot spots.
  - Potential reversed airflow (close to supply fan).

- **Poorly distributed air does not reach the intended location.**
- **Investigate:**
  - Leaks such as unsealed raised floor cutouts and cable openings.
  - Incorrectly located and sized air outlets and perforated floor tiles
  - Air outlets should **ONLY** be in cold aisles near active IT equipment.



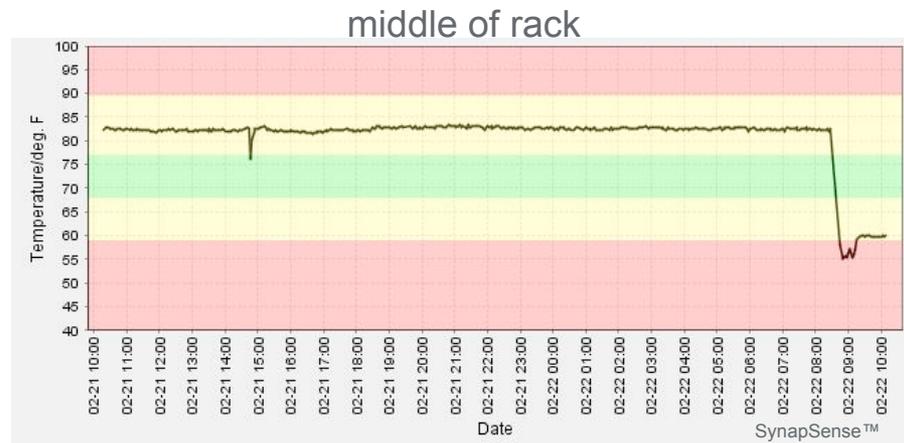
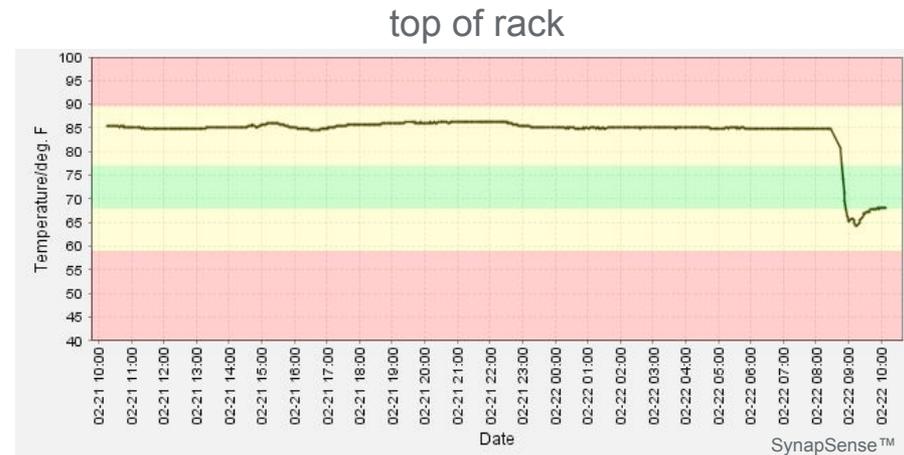
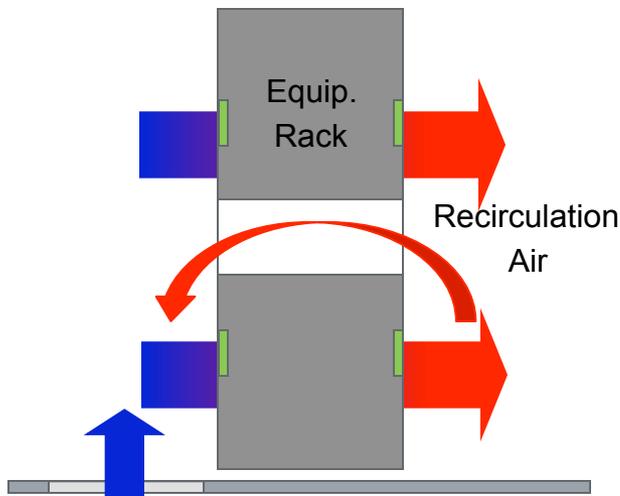
- Typically, a large fraction of cooling air is lost through leaks in the raised floor.
- Ensure a rigorous program maintains sealing of all potential leaks in the raised floor plenum.



**Unsealed cable penetration**

# Results: Blanking Panels

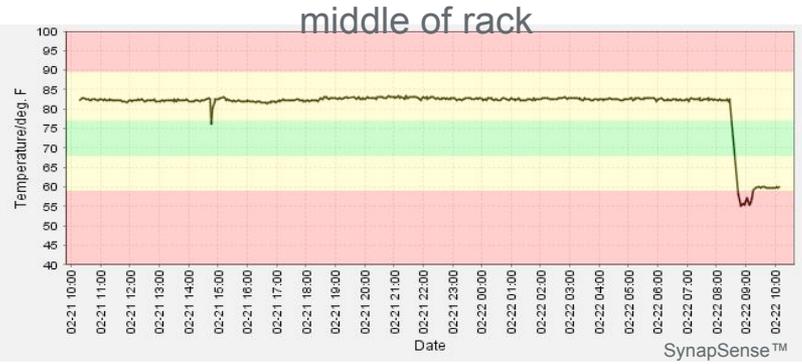
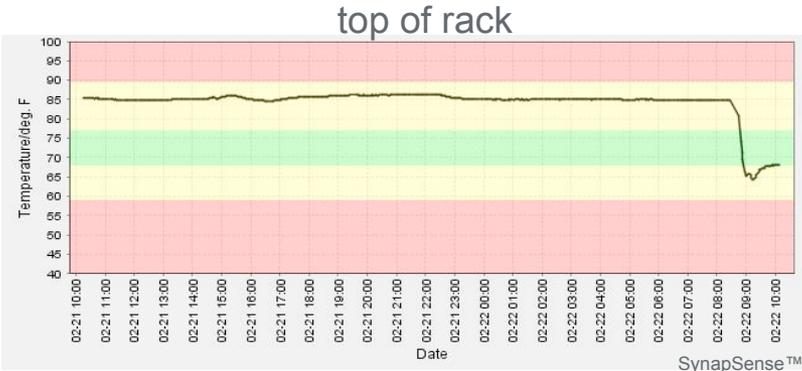
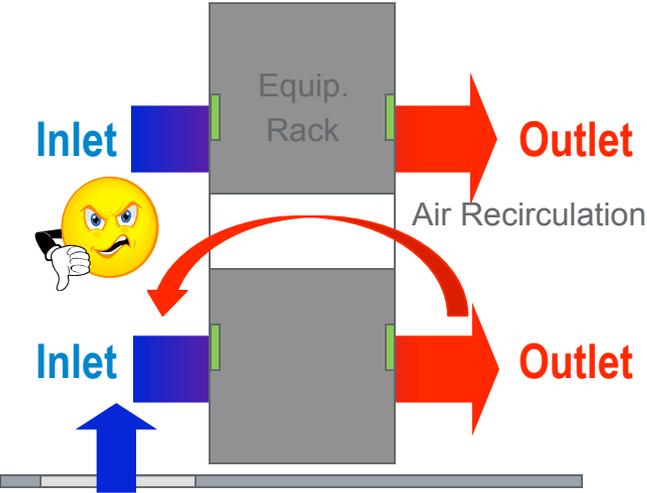
- One 12" blanking panel added
  - Temperature dropped ~20°
- Impact of other best practices confirmed
  - Eliminate leaks in floor
  - Improve air management



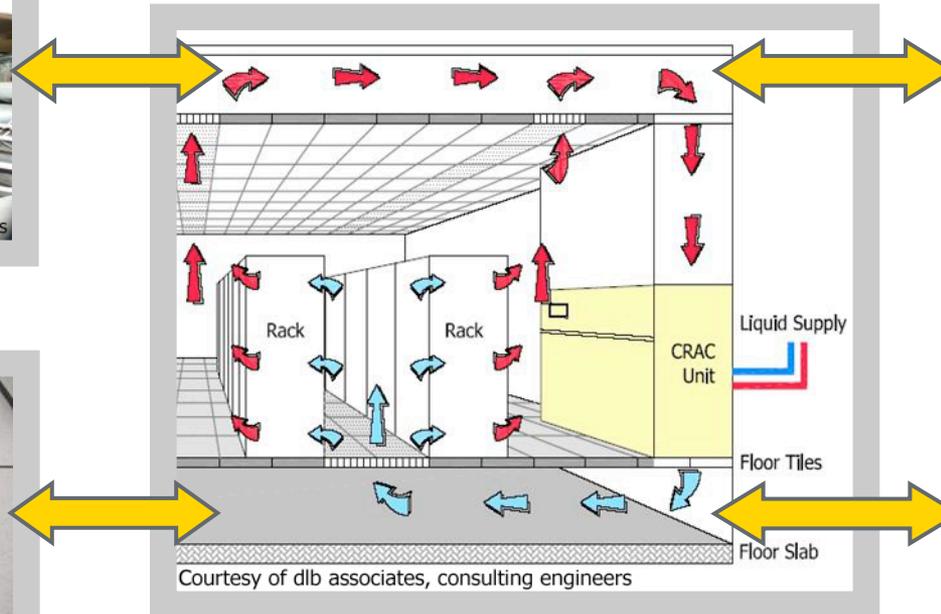
# Manage Blanking Panels

- Managing server blanking and side panels is very important.
- Any opening between the aisles will degrade the separation of hot and cold air.
- Ensure a rigorous program maintains server blanking and side panels.

One 12" blanking panel added  
Temperature dropped ~20°



# Reduce Airflow Restrictions & Congestion



**Congested Floor & Ceiling Cavities**

Consider The Impact That Congestion Has On The Airflow Patterns

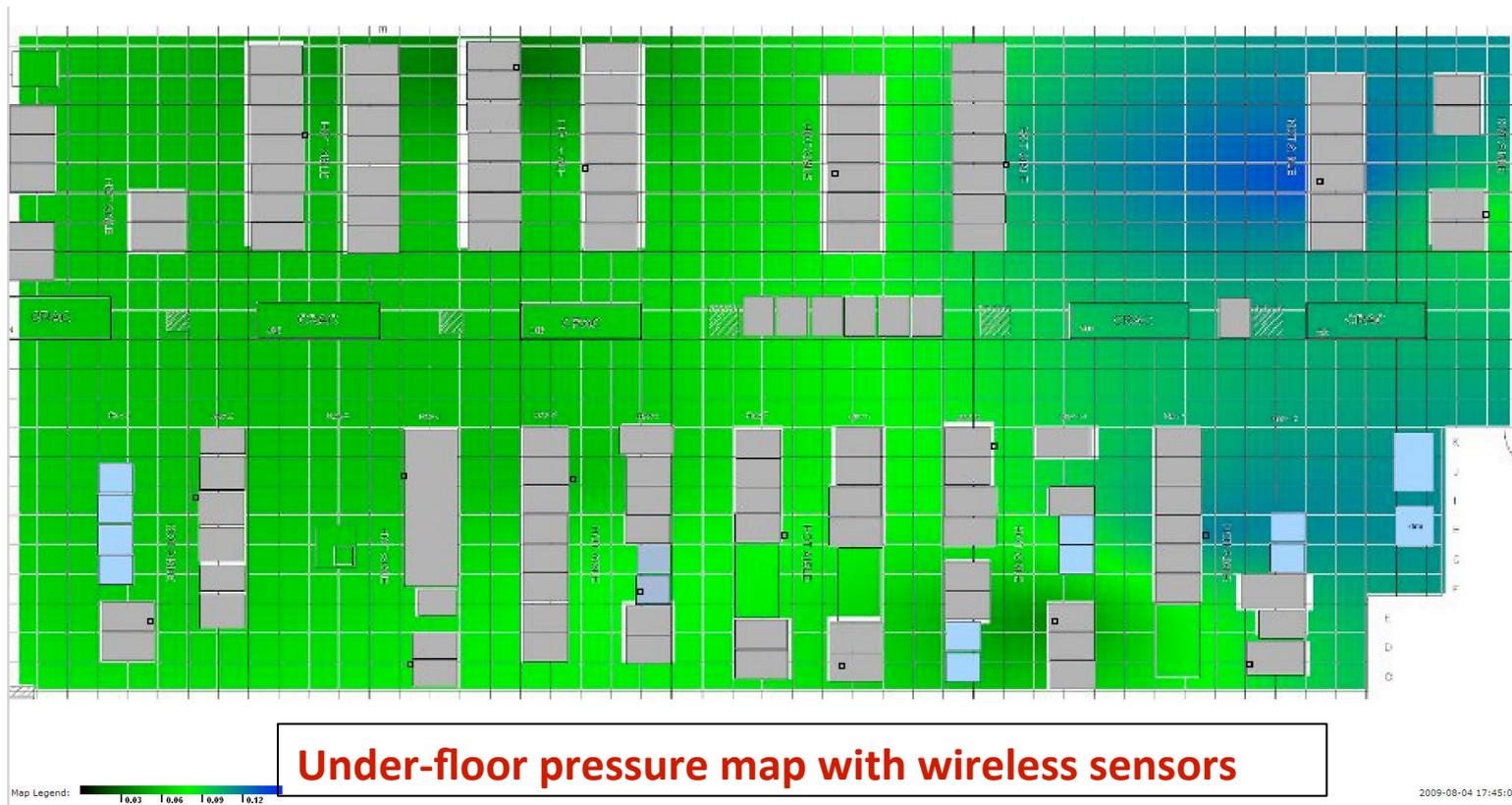
**Empty Floor & Ceiling Cavities**

# Reduce Cable Congestion

- Cable congestion sharply reduces airflow and degrades airflow distribution.
- No cable trays should be placed below perforated tiles.
- Generally, it is obvious when there is too much “*stuff.*”



- **BALANCING** is required to optimize airflow.
- **Measure & REBALANCE** whenever new IT or HVAC equipment is installed.



- Locate perforated floor tiles *only* in cold aisles.
  - Do not locate perforated tiles in hot aisles; they are supposed to be hot.
- Too little or *too much* supply air may result in poor overall airflow distribution; see below.

Before



After

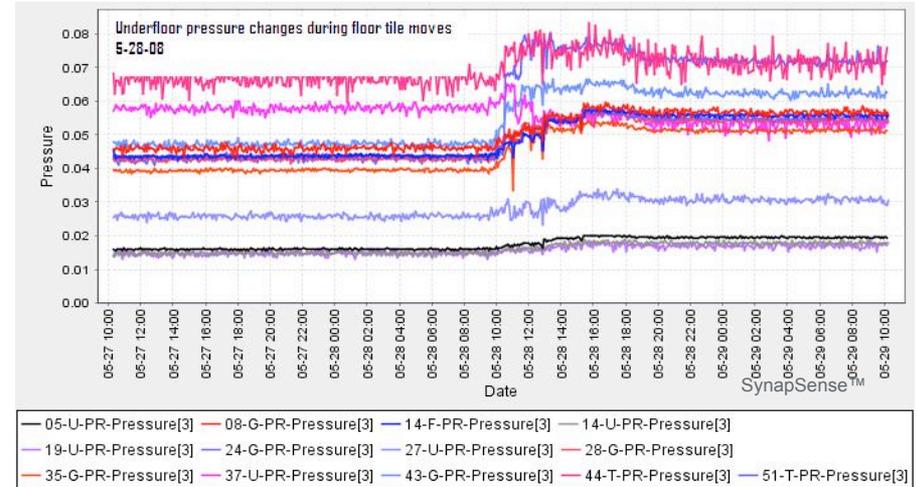


# Results: Tune Floor Tiles

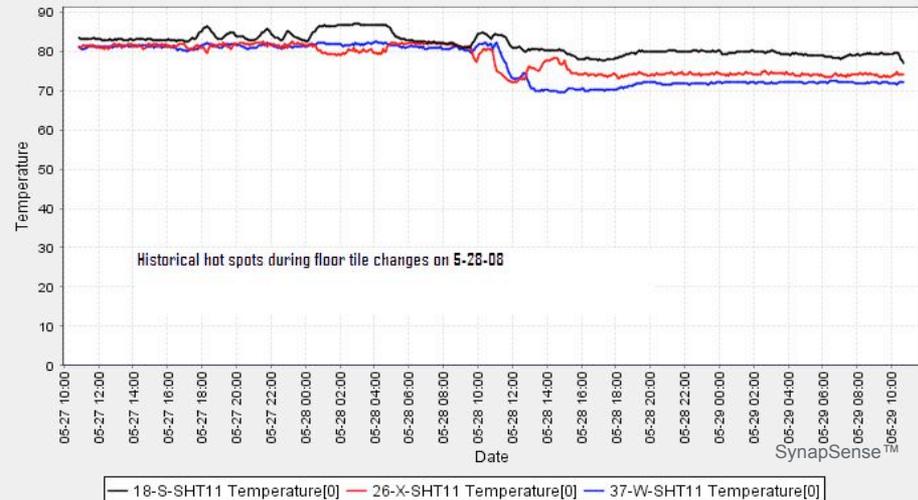


- Too many permeable floor tiles
- if airflow is optimized
  - under-floor pressure |
  - rack-top temperatures |
  - data center capacity increases
- Measurement and visualization assisted tuning process

### under-floor pressures

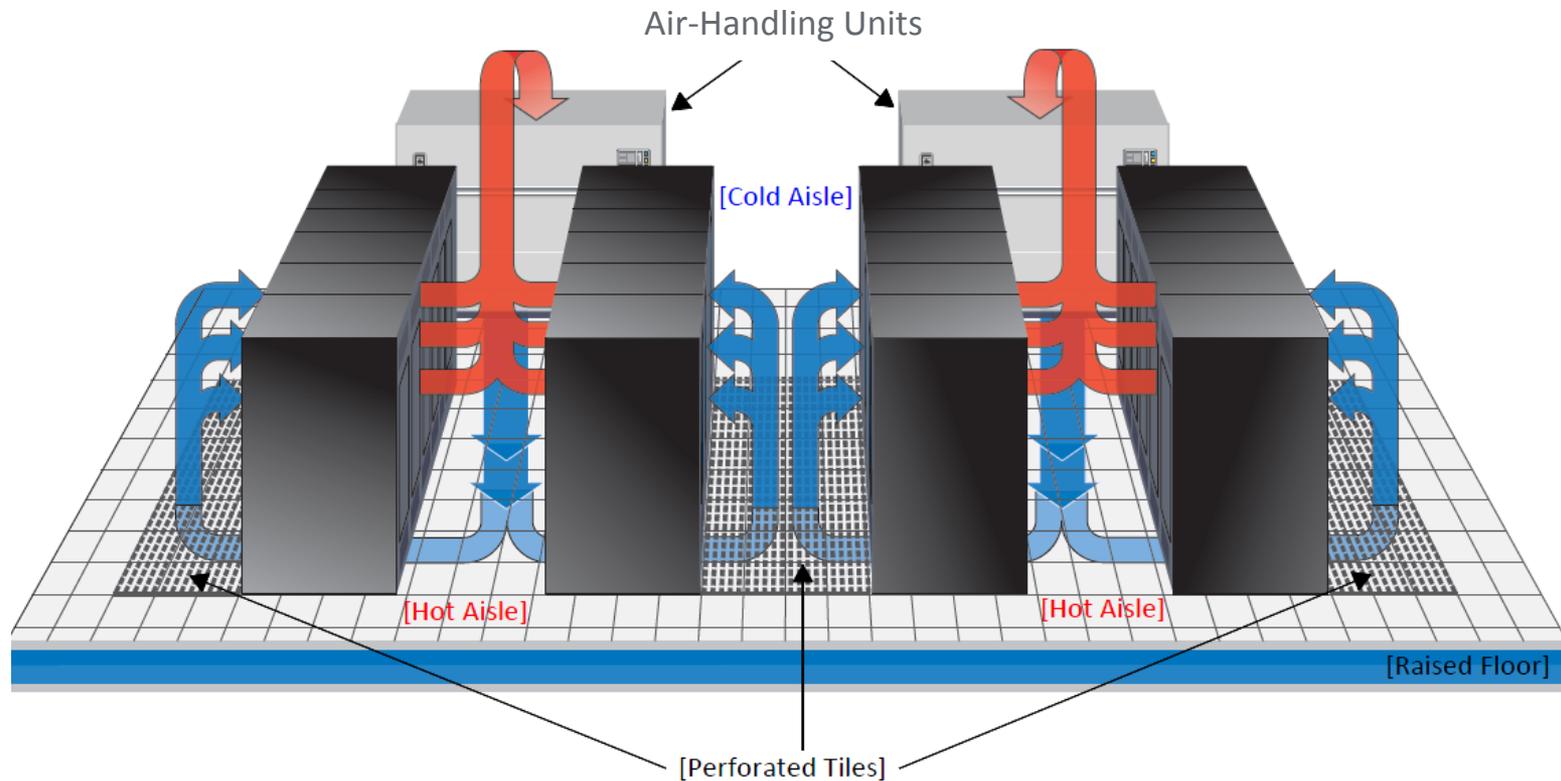


### rack-top temperatures

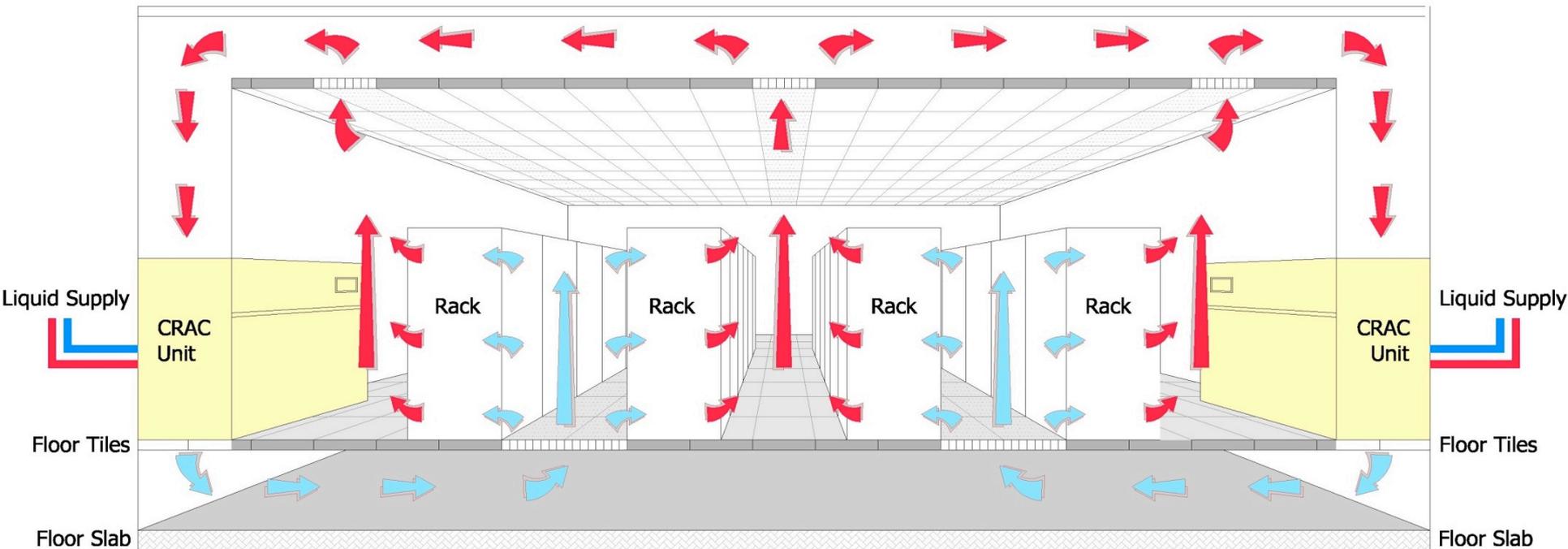


## Locate CRAC/CRAH units at ends of Hot Aisles

### HOT AISLE/COLD AISLE APPROACH



# Next step: Air Distribution Return-Air Plenum



# Return air plenum

- Overhead plenum converted to hot-air return
- Return registers placed over hot aisle
- CRAC intakes extended to overhead

Before



After



# Return-Air Plenum Connections



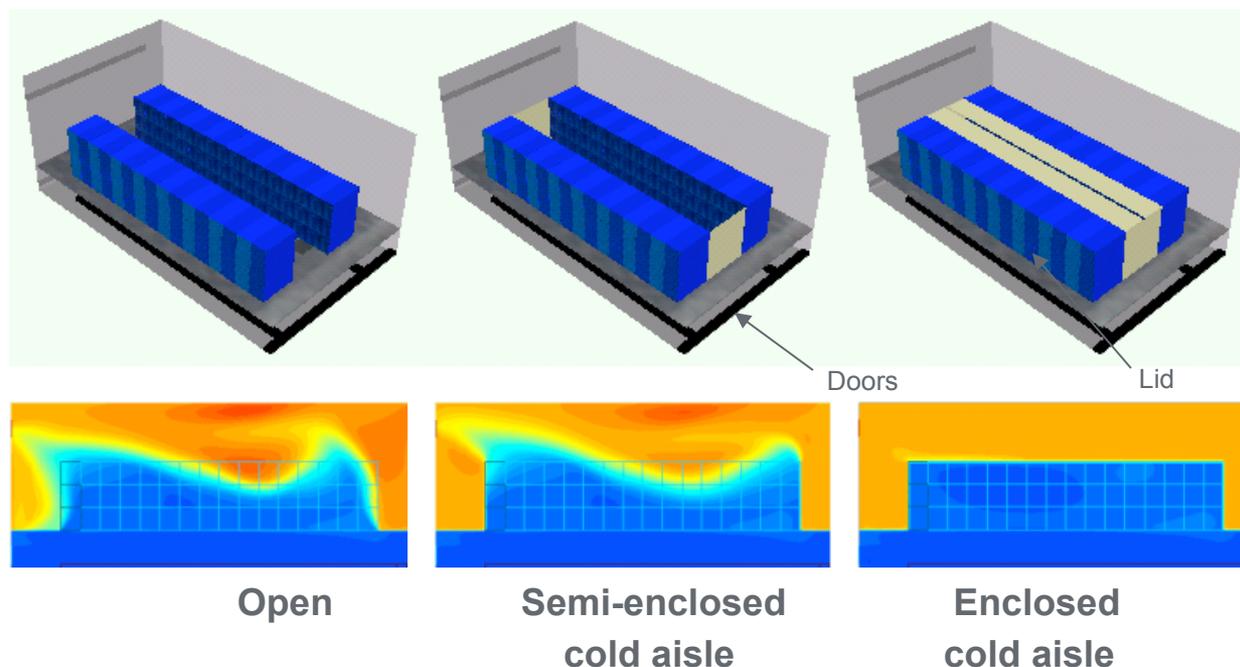
**Return air duct on top of CRAC unit connects to the return air plenum.**

# Isolate Hot Return



Duct on top of each rack connects to the return air plenum.

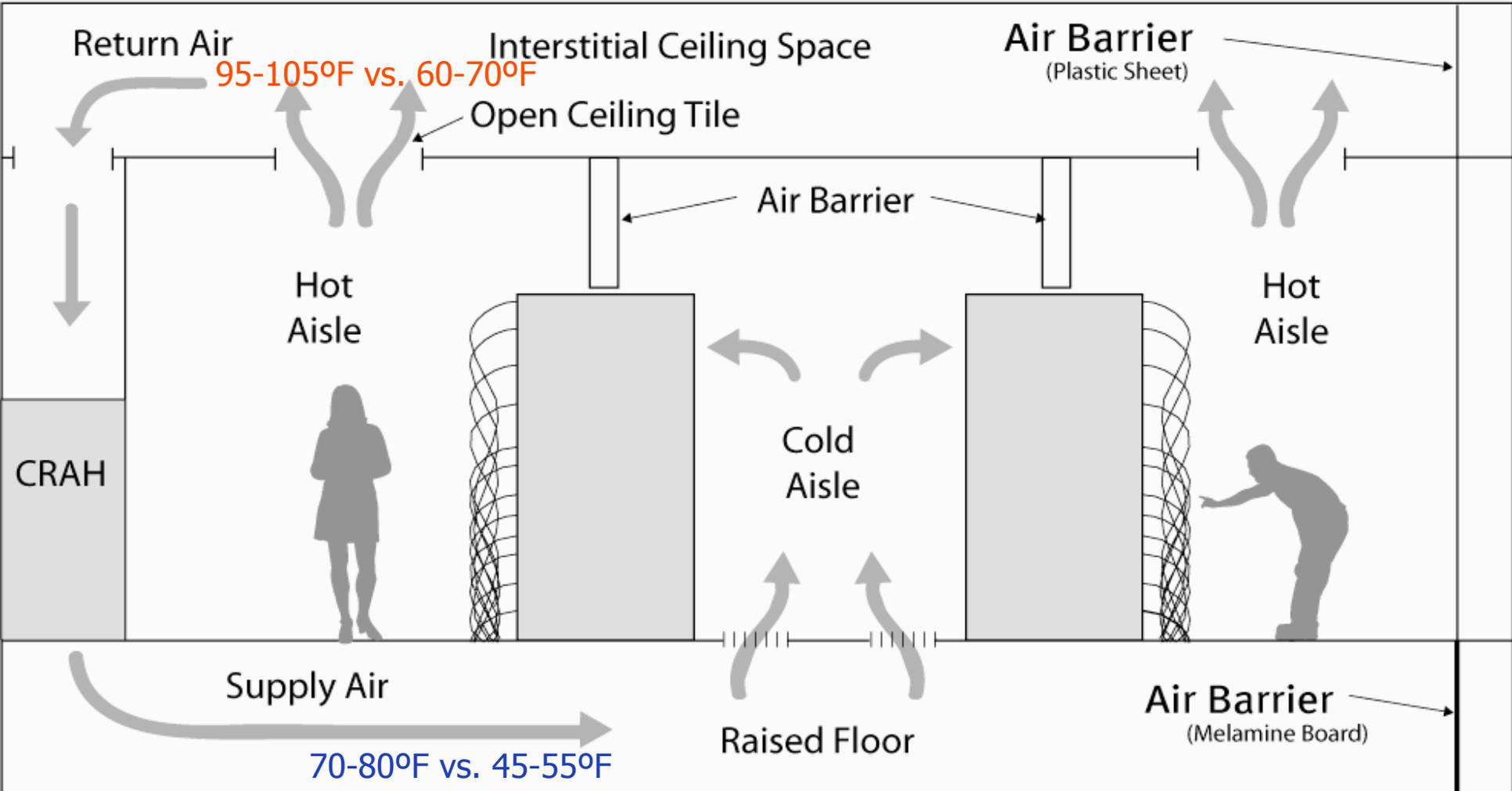
- ✓ Physical barriers enhance separate hot and cold airflow.
- ✓ Barriers placement must comply with fire codes.
- ✓ Curtains, doors, or lids have been used successfully.



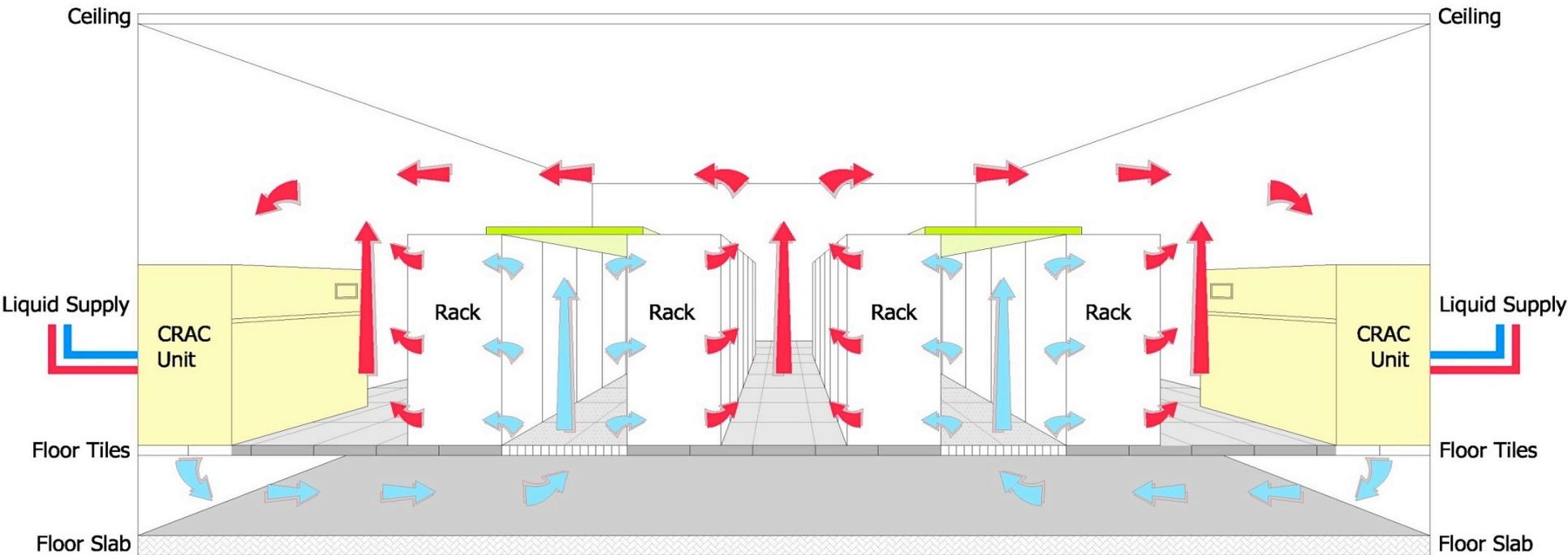
# Adding Air Curtains for Hot/Cold Isolation



# Improve Air Management: Isolate Cold and Hot Aisles

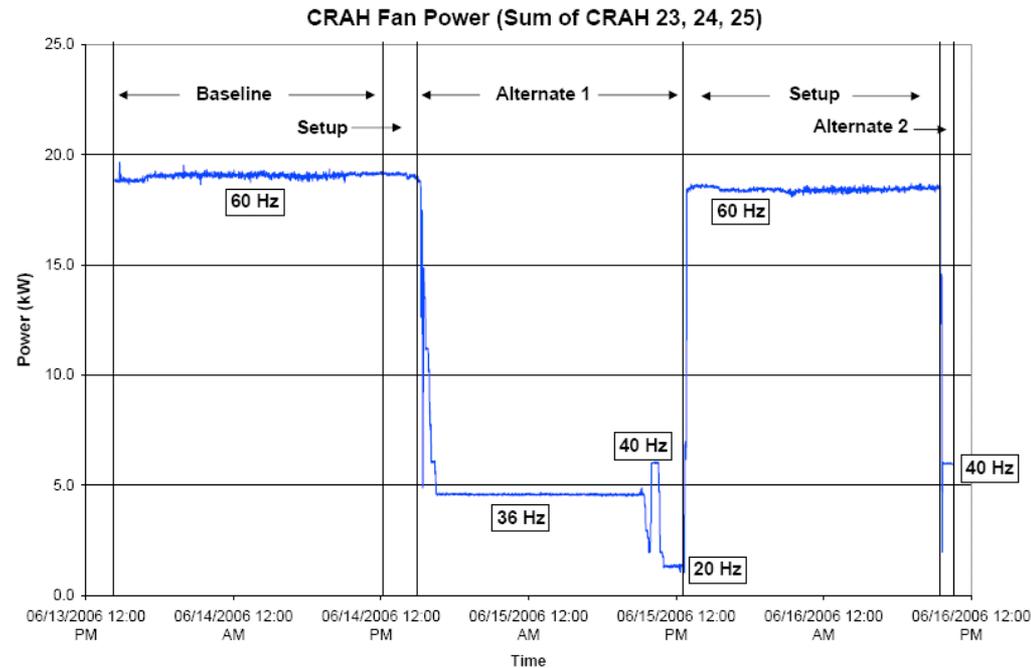


# Cold Aisle Airflow Containment Example



**LBNL Cold Aisle Containment study achieved fan energy savings of ~ 75%**

- Isolation can significantly reduce air mixing and hence flow
- Fan speed can be reduced and fan power is proportional to the cube of the flow.
- Fan energy savings of 70-80% is possible with variable air volume (VAV) fans in CRAH/CRAC units (or central AHUs)

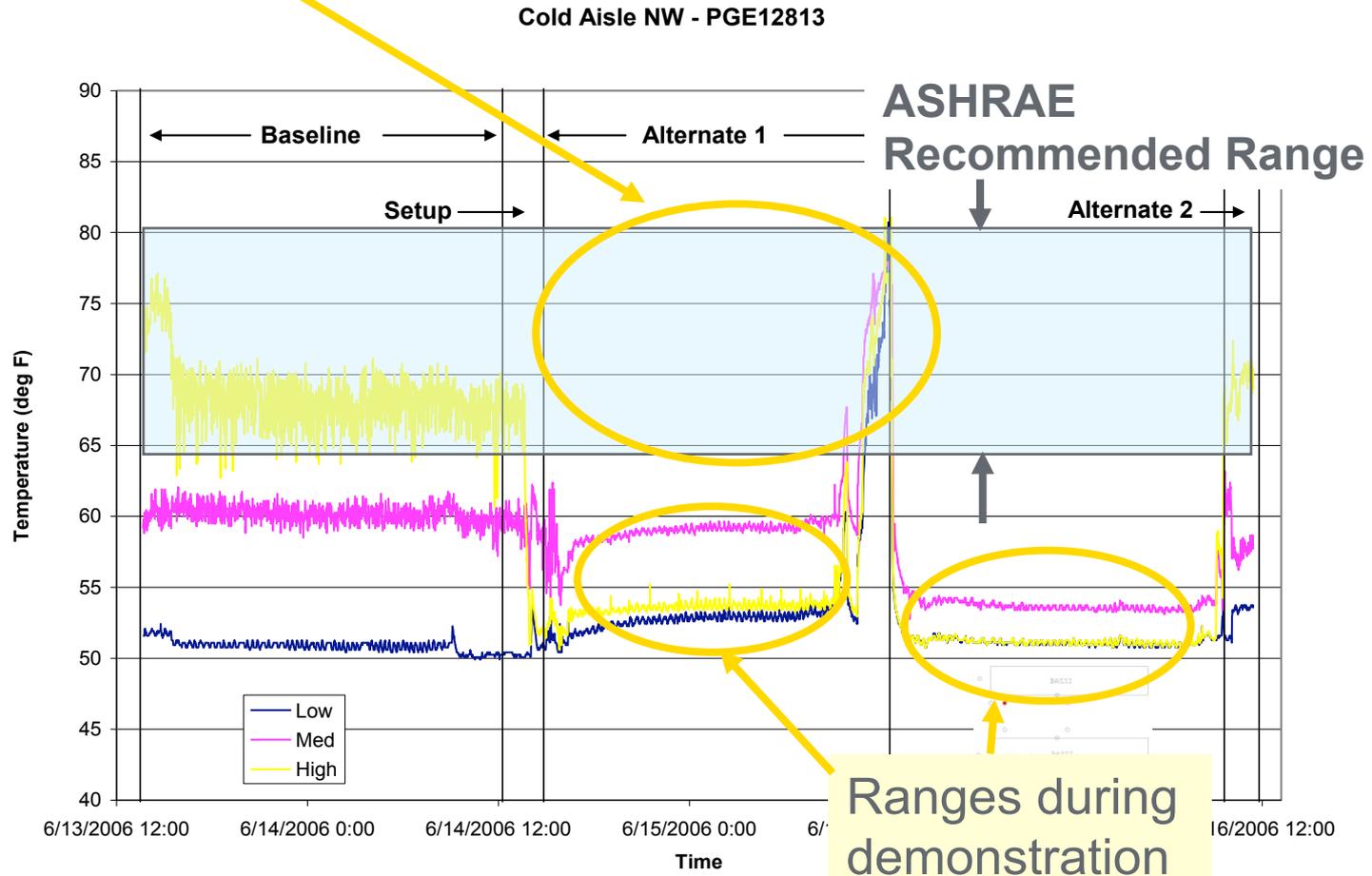


Without Enclosure

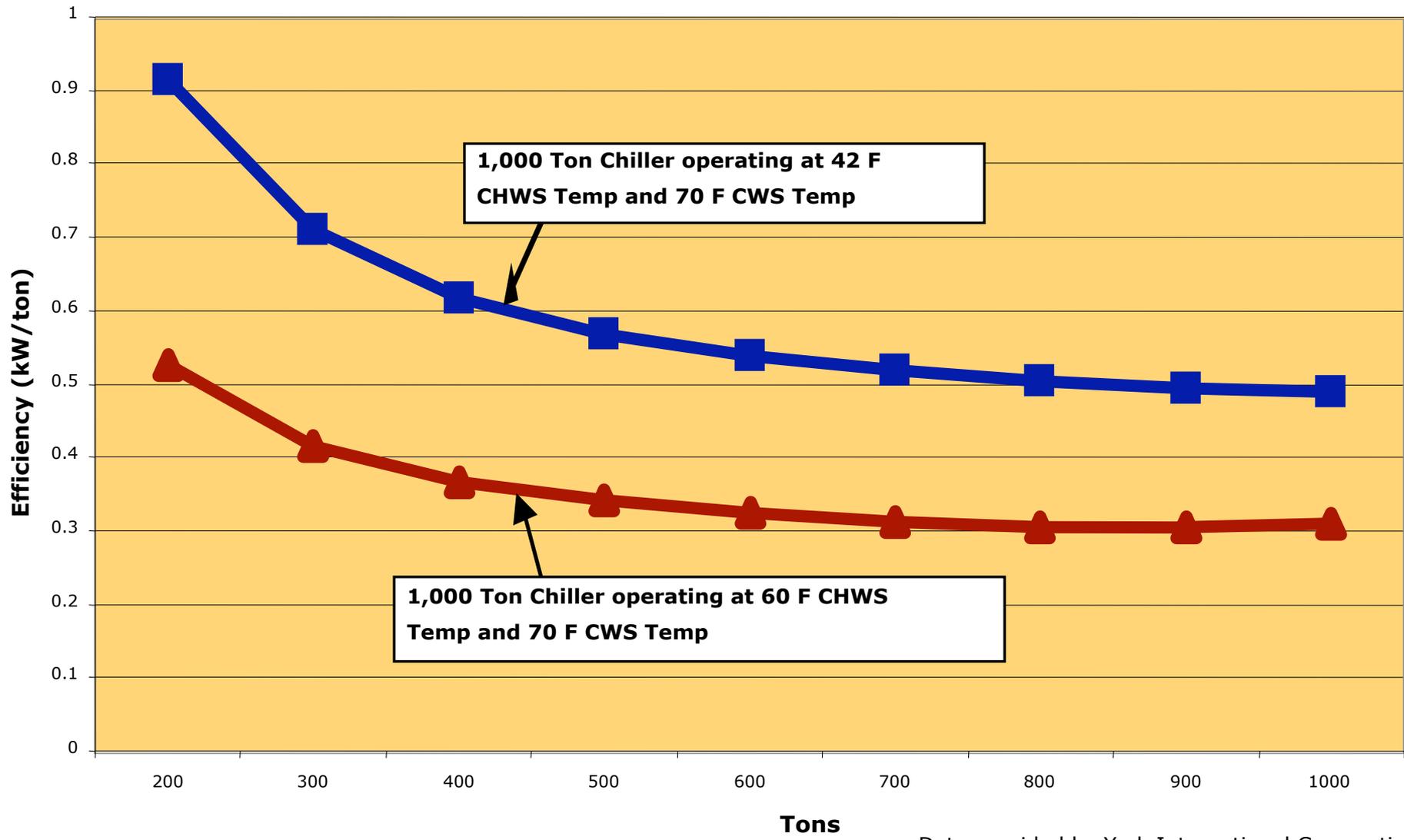
With Enclosure

Without Enclosure

Better airflow management permits warmer supply temperatures!



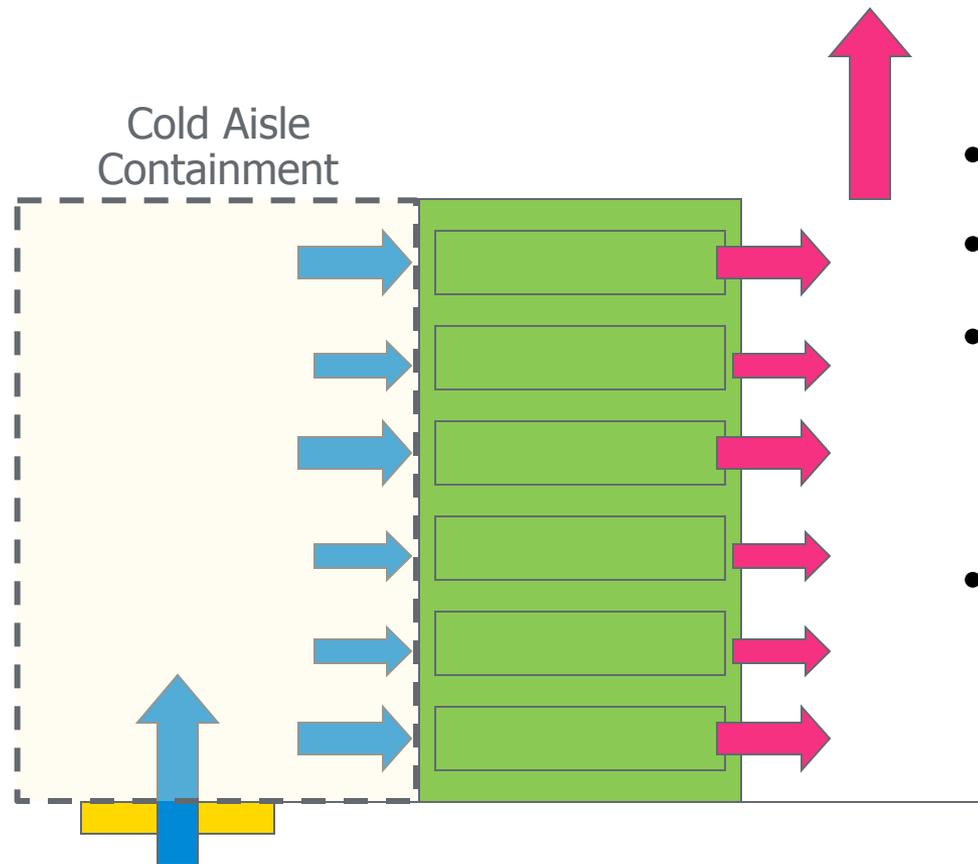
# Cooling System Efficiencies Under Different Conditions:



Data provided by York International Corporation.

- Energy intensive IT equipment needs good isolation of “cold” inlet and “hot” discharge.
- Supply airflow can be reduced if no mixing occurs.
- Overall temperature can be raised if air is delivered without mixing.
- Cooling systems and economizers use less energy with warmer return air temperatures.
- Cooling coil capacity increases with warmer air temperatures.

**In a perfect world, variable flow supply,  
variable flow server fans and air containment...**



- **Partial flow condition**
- **Best energy performance**
- **Hard to control with under-floor supply plenum**
- **Works best with aisle containment**

**Localized air cooling systems with improved air management can be used to supplement or replace under-floor systems.**

Examples include:

➤ **Row-based cooling units**

- Cooling units placed in the rows of isolated servers.

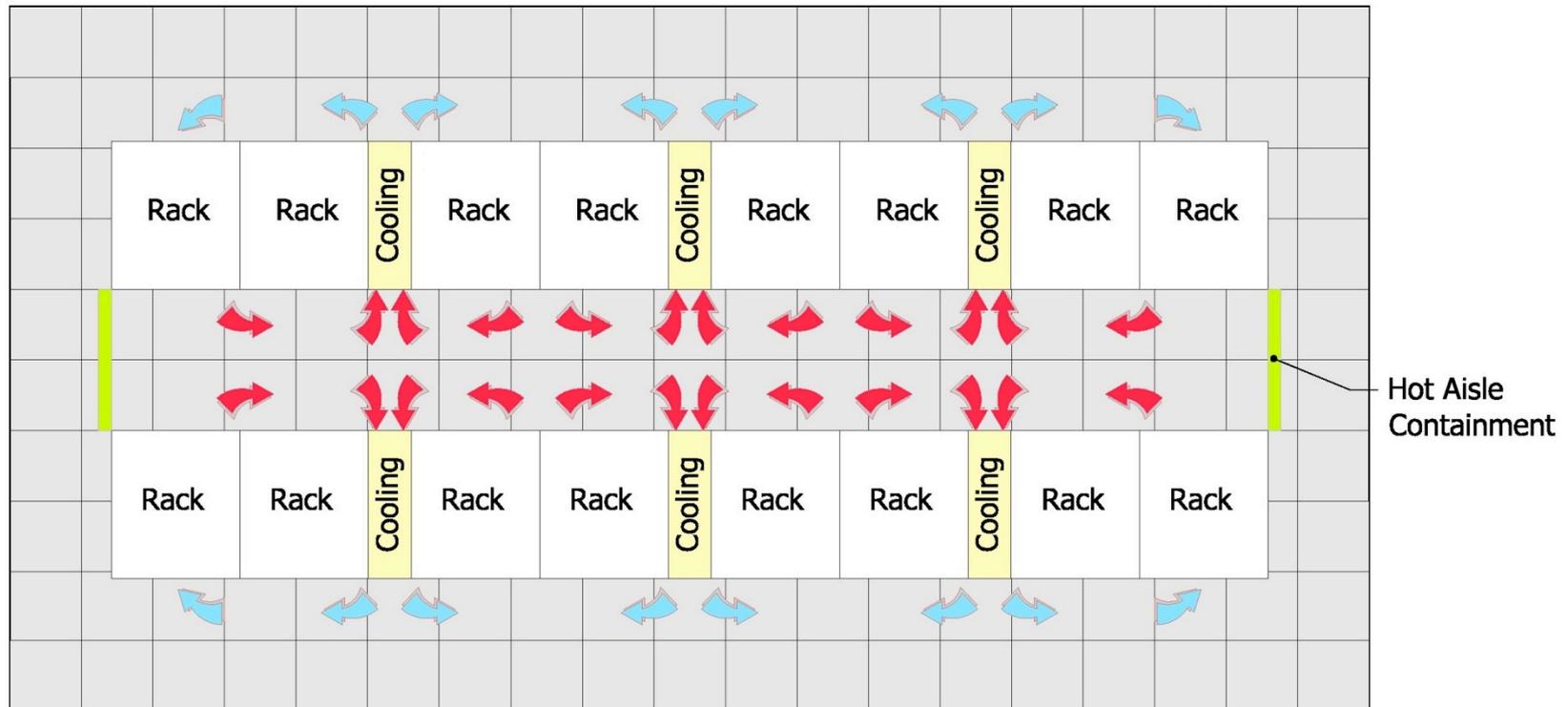
➤ **Rack-Mounted heat exchangers**

- Cool the hot exhaust air from the rack (prior to entering adjacent rack).

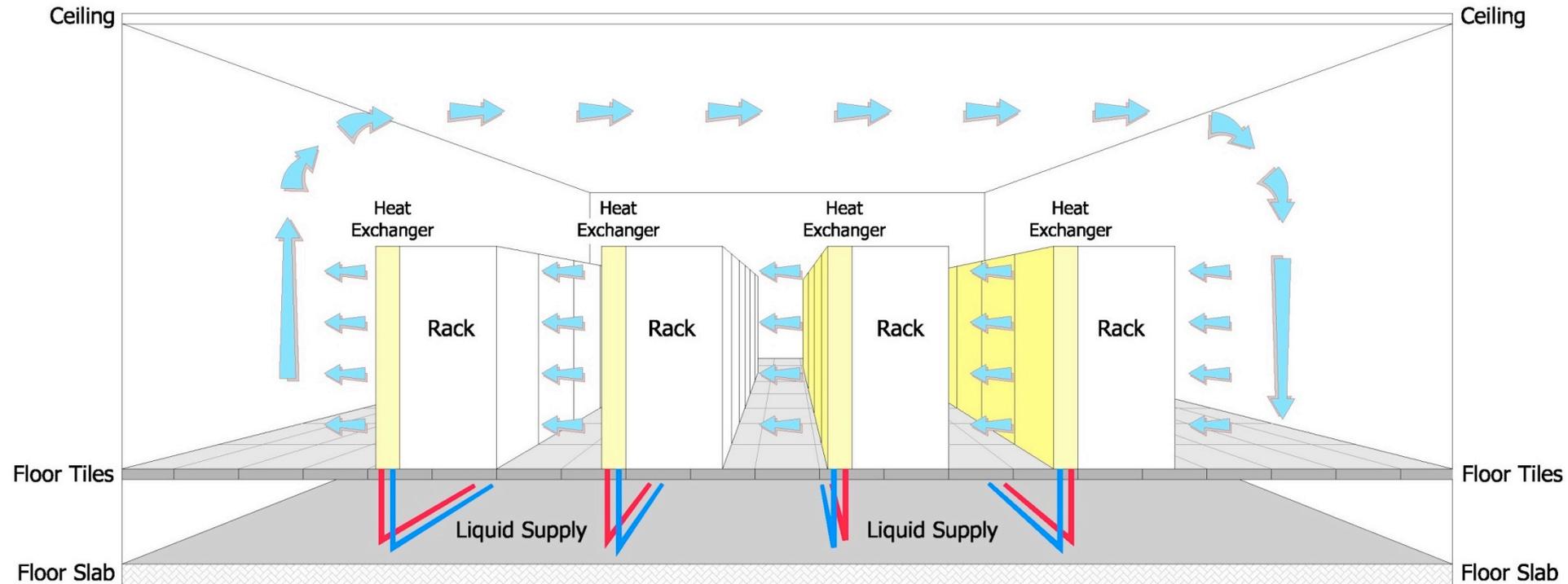
➤ **Overhead cooling units**

- Cooling units placed over the cold aisles or servers.

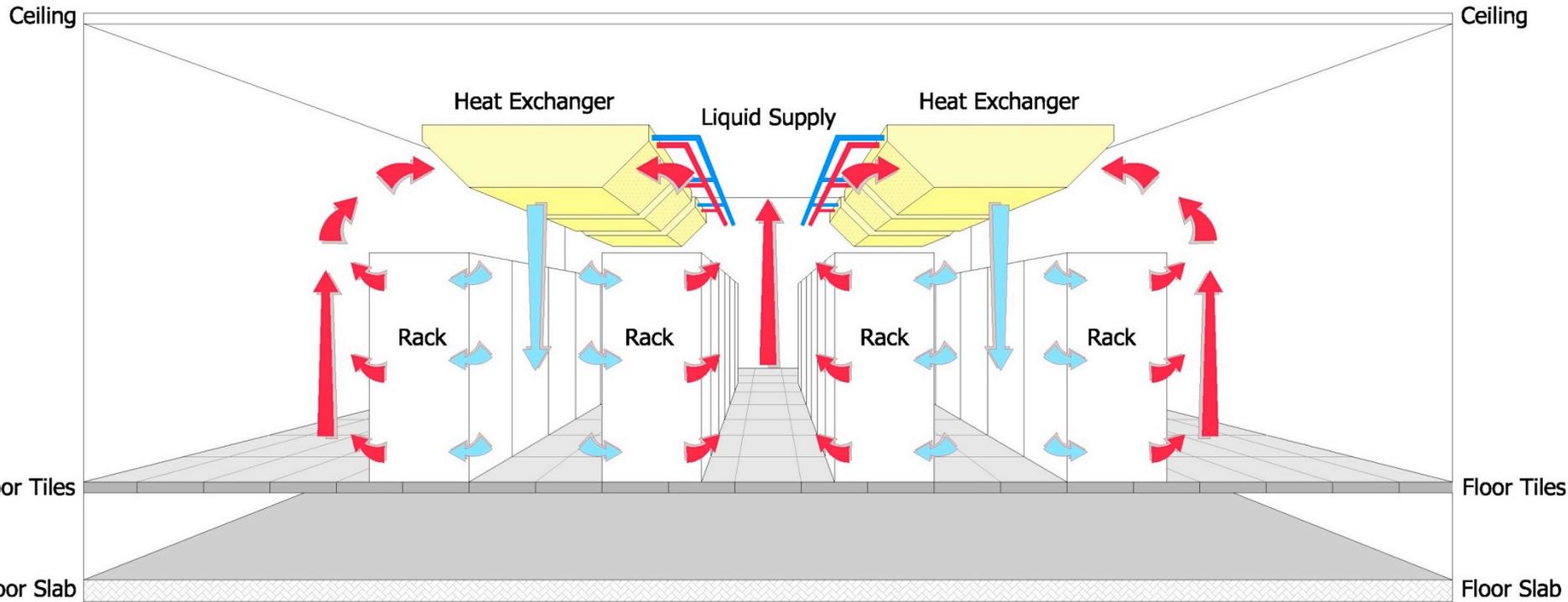
# Air Distribution – Local Row-Based Cooling Units



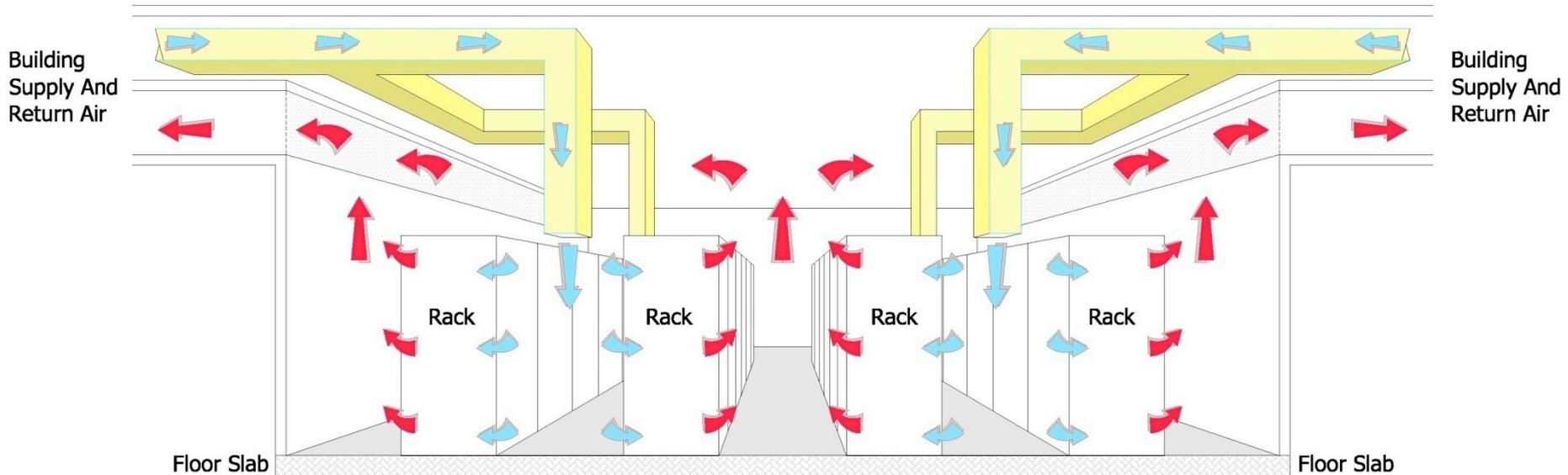
# Air Distribution – Rack-Mounted Heat Exchangers



# Air Distribution – Local Overhead Cooling Units



# Air Distribution – Vertical Overhead (VOH) System

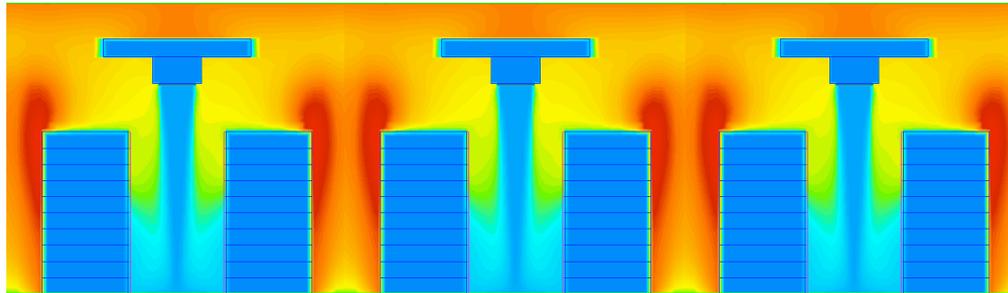


## **VOH, an alternative an under-floor air supply system:**

Cooling airflow is supplied to the equipment racks through registers via an overhead ductwork system that is connected to air handlers.

# Hot and Cold Aisles from over-head cooling

## ➤ Cross-section of hot and cold aisles



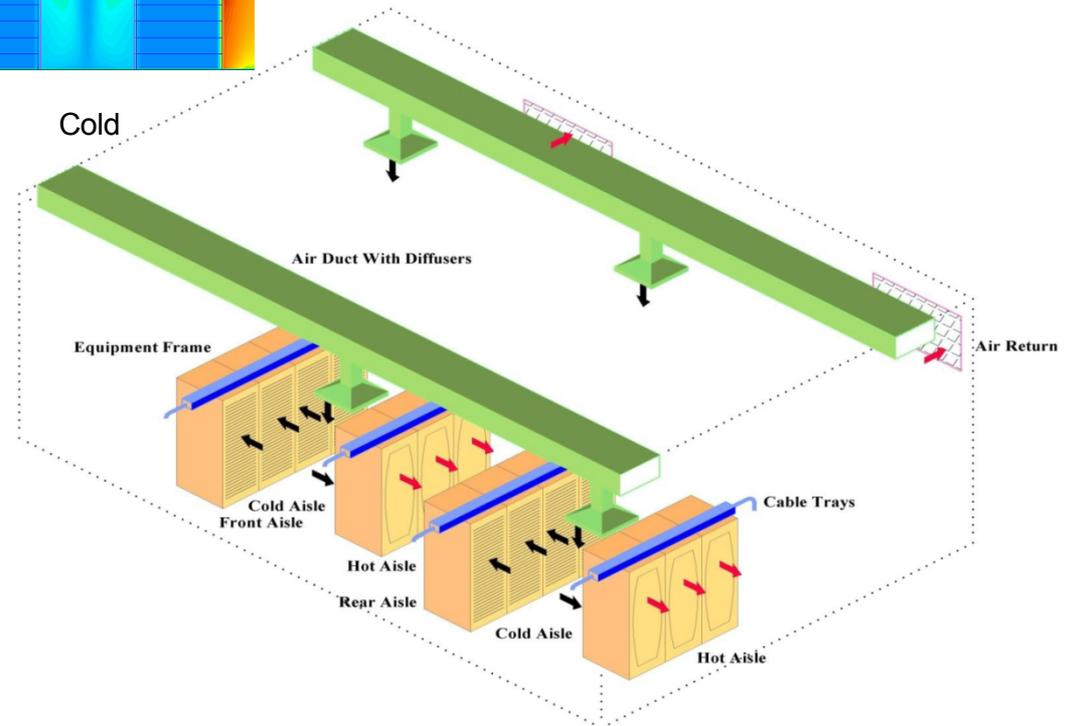
Cold

Hot

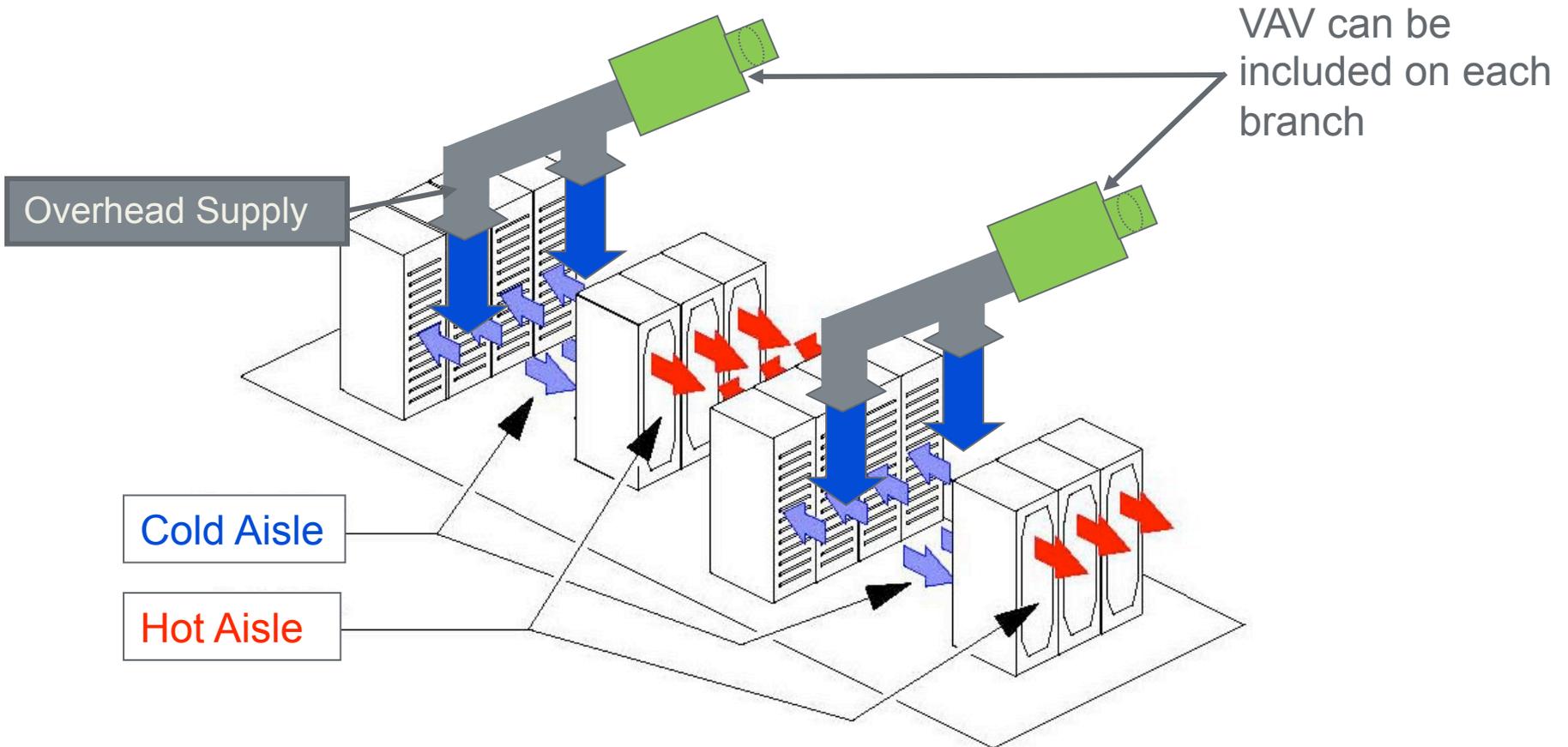
Cold

Hot

Cold



# Overhead Supply Variable Air Volume (VAV)



© 2004, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. ([www.ashrae.org](http://www.ashrae.org)). Reprinted by permission from ASHRAE Thermal Guidelines for Data Processing Environments. This material may not be copied nor distributed in either paper or digital form without ASHRAE's permission.

## Basic air management techniques:

- Seal air leaks around floor tiles, cable penetrations, and short-circuit pathways; they are everywhere!
- Locate CRAC units at the end of the hot aisle to reduce short-circuiting from cold aisles.
- Prevent recirculation of hot air by installing blanking panels at all open rack locations and within racks.
- Manage floor tiles - do not put perforated tiles in the hot aisle.
- Use return air plenums and duct the returns of cooling units to draw the warmest air from the top of the hot aisles.
- Install airflow barriers to isolation and contain hot aisle and cold aisle.

## Energy Savings Achieved at DOE Savannah River Site (SRS)

from basic retro-commissioning effort that:

- 1 Eliminated electric reheat.
- 2 Turned off humidification devices.
- 3 Tuned floor tile airflow.
- 4 Turned off three CRAC units.

**Total estimated savings** = ~1,400,000 kWh/year

## Retro-Cx cost at SRS

Engineering consultant: preliminary, on-site, and follow-up work including data measurements and retrieval. SRS on-site facilities personnel and engineering support.

**Total estimated cost** = ~\$25,000.

## Simple Payback at SRS

Estimated, at \$0.045/kWh = **2.5 months.**

# Questions?



## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

## Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
- Data center environmental conditions – Bell

## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
- **Cooling systems – Bell**

## Break

- Electrical systems - Sartor
- Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor



# Cooling systems

Removing heat from data centers

Presented by:  
Geoffrey C. Bell, PE



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

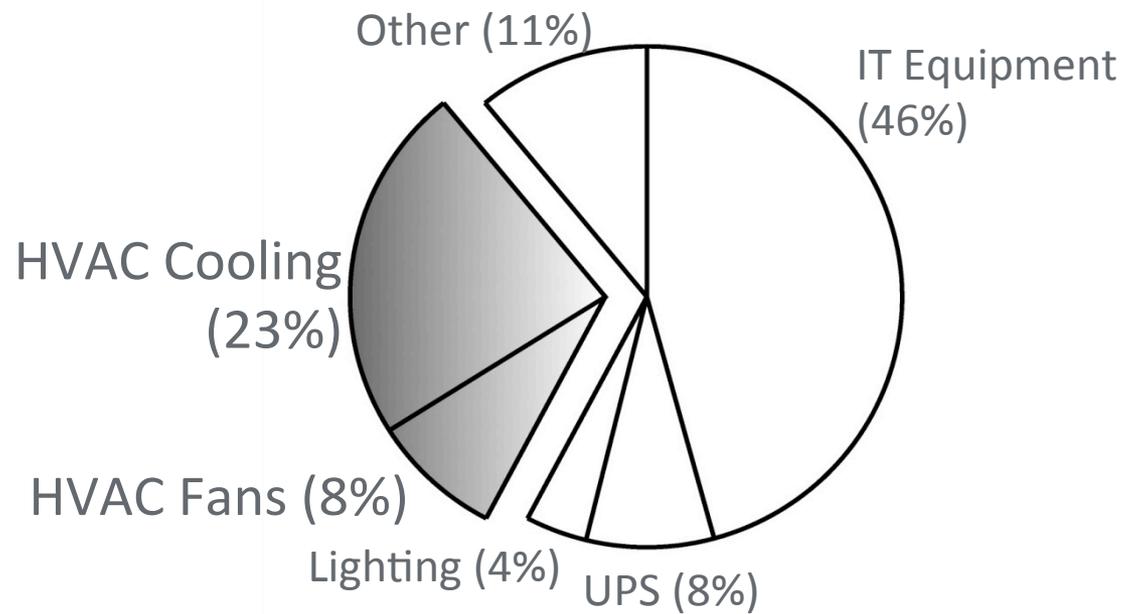


Federal Energy Management Program



## Connecting good air management and an optimized cooling system:

- ✓ Improved DX CRAC unit efficiencies
- ✓ Increased CRAC/CRAH cooling coil capacity
- ✓ Higher allowable chilled-water supply temperature which improves chiller efficiency
- ✓ More hours for air-side and water-side free cooling
- ✓ Lower humidification/dehumidification energy.

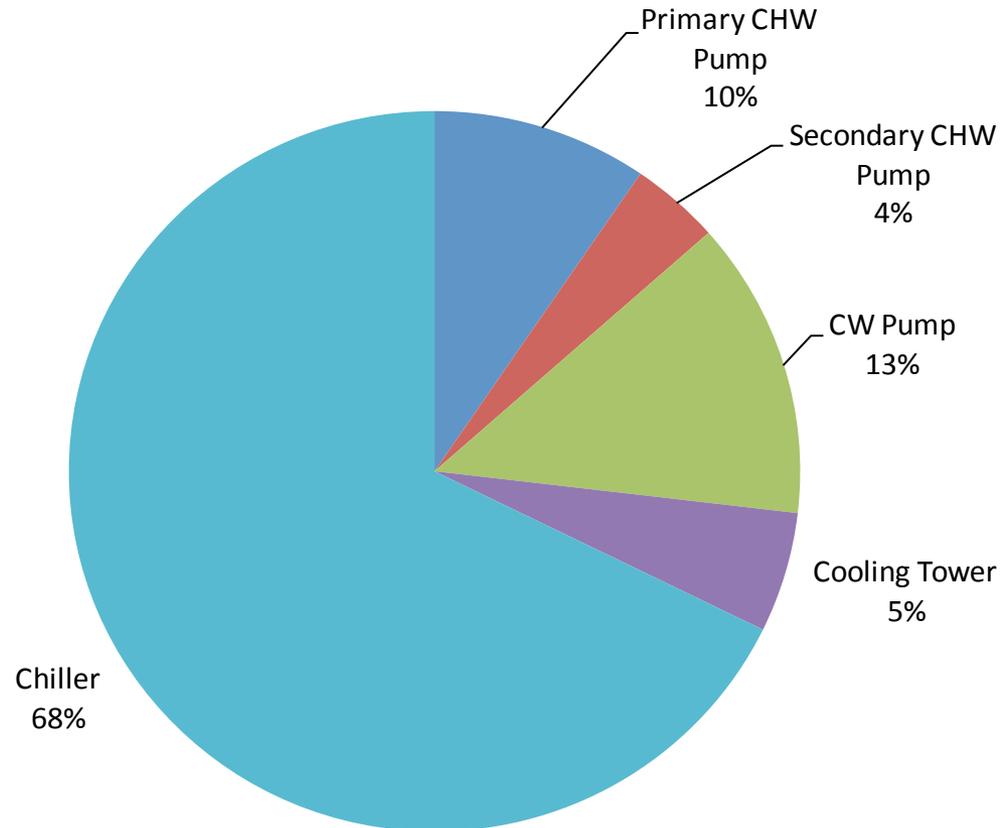


Typical Power for Cooling	
HVAC Cooling	23%
HVAC Fans	8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31%</b>

Typical Data Center Power Allocation

Source: LBNL

# CHW Plant Energy Use in a Typical Data Center



## How is data center cooling achieved?

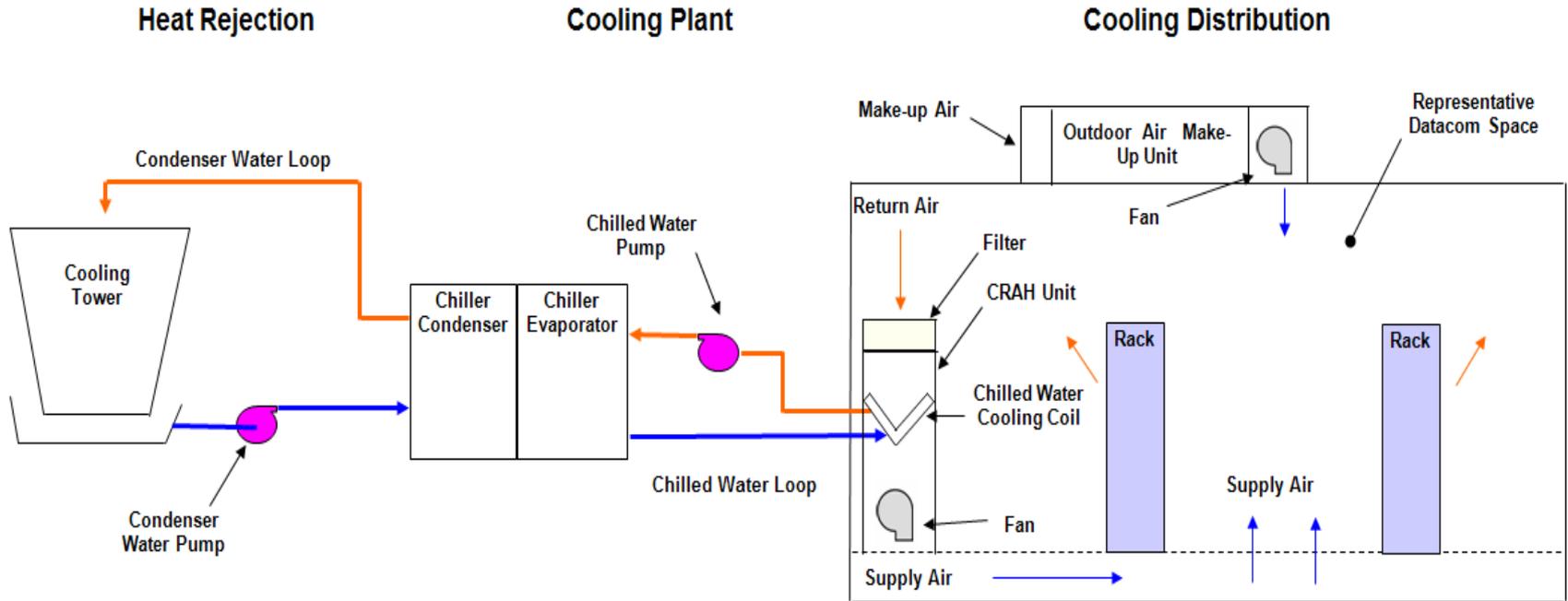
### What are methods to increase cooling energy efficiency?

- **Install variable speed chillers and pumps**
- **Evaluate water-side economizers**
- **Consider close-coupled rack-coolers**
- **Reuse server waste heat**

### What is compressorless cooling?

- **Use outside air for cooling [air-side economizer]**
- **Install evaporative cooling**
- **Apply indirect evaporative cooling devices**

# HVAC Systems Overview



## Heat Rejection Alternatives:



- Water Cooled Direct (shown)
- Water Cooled Indirect (with HX)
- Evaporatively Cooled
- Air Cooled
- Dry Cooler (Air Cooled with Glycol)

## Cooling Plant Alternatives:

- Water-Side Economizer (HX)
- Chiller (shown)
- Direct Expansion (DX)

## Terminal Unit Alternatives

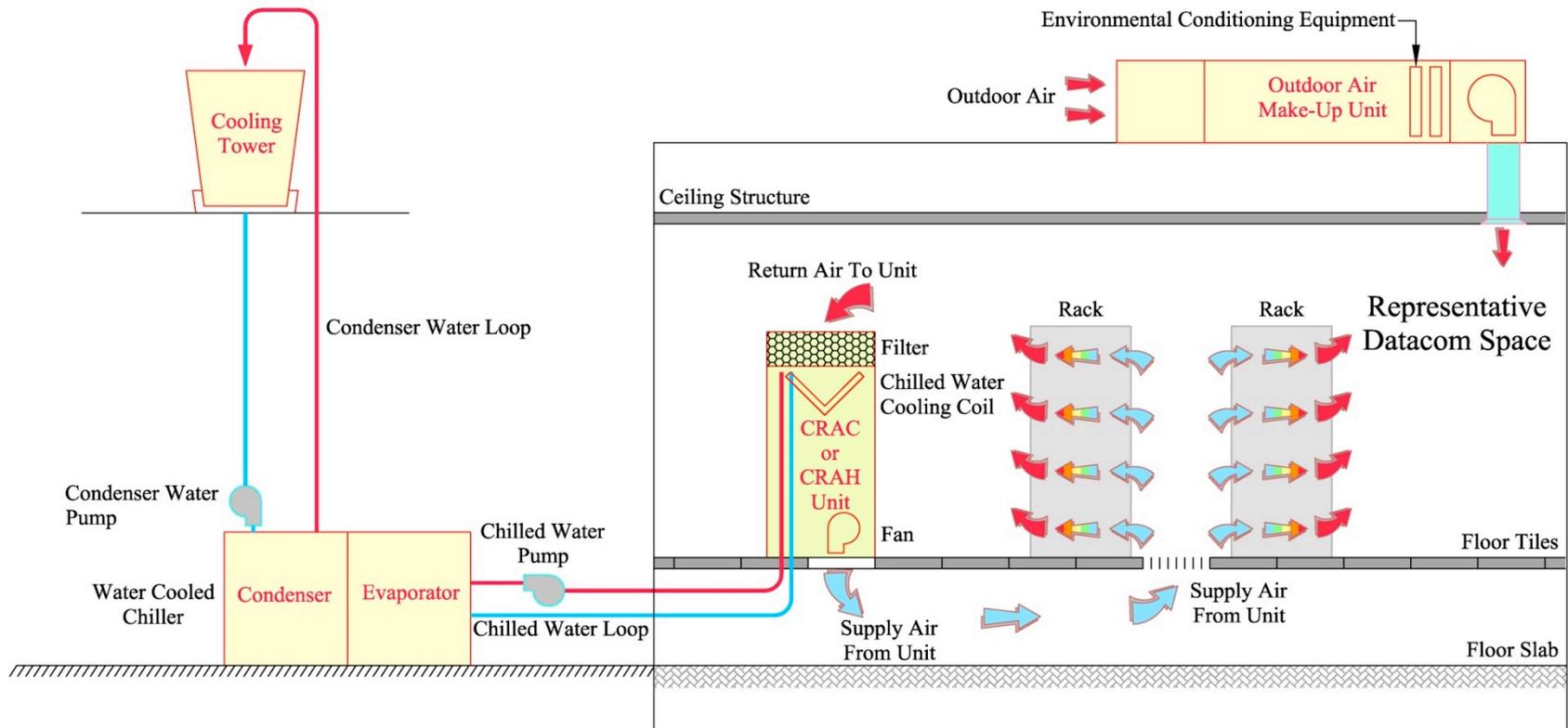
- Liquid Cooling
- Central AHU
- CRAH Unit (shown)
- CRAC Unit (DX)

## Distribution Alternatives

- On Board
- In Rack
- In Row
- Overhead Air
- Underfloor Air (Shown)



# Cooling Equipment - Overview

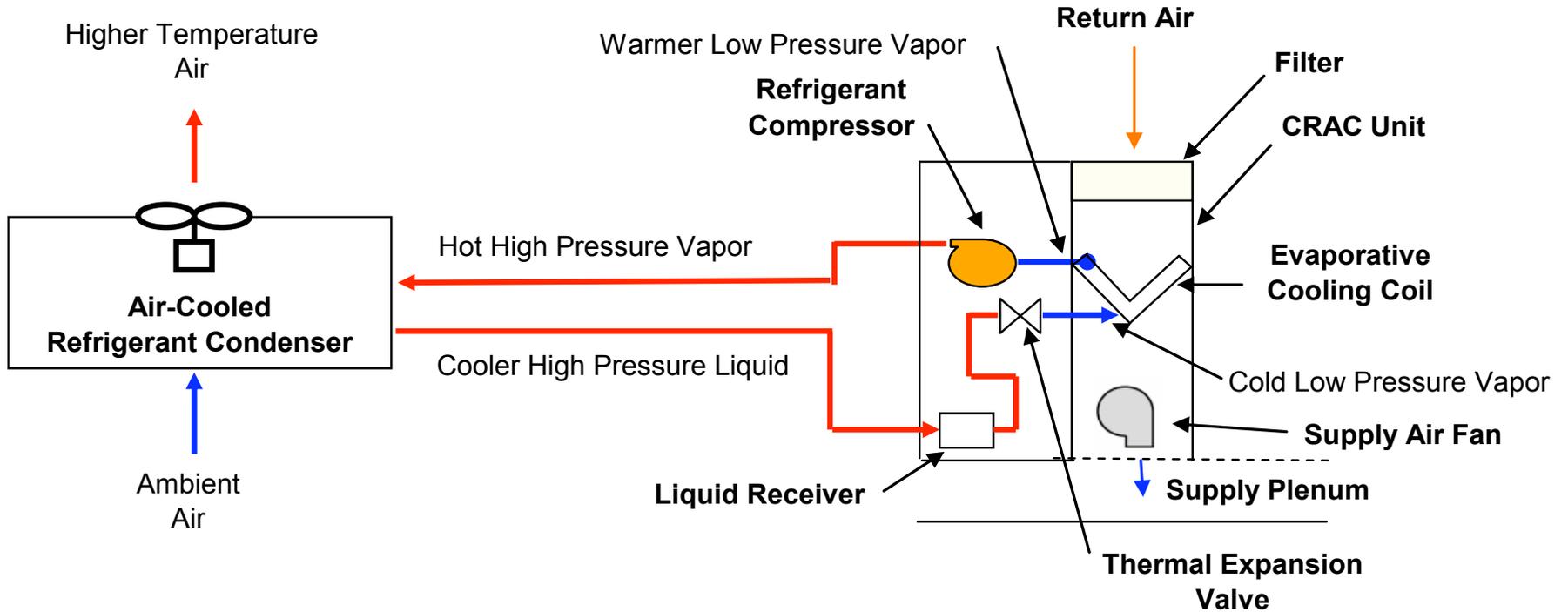


There are energy saving opportunities in each piece to the Cooling System  
Critical to select efficient equipment (24/7 operation often at partial load).

- **DX Air Handling/CRAC units**
  - Contain a fan, Direct Expansion (DX) cooling coil and a refrigerant compressor.
  - The compressor may be cooled by:
    - An air-cooled condenser
    - Water from a cooling tower or dry-cooler
- **Air Handler/CRAH units**
  - Contain a fan and chilled water cooling coil
  - Typically in larger facilities with a central chiller plant
- **Both units often equipped with humidifiers and reheat for dehumidification**
- **Often independently controlled**



# Typical Air-Cooled CRAC Unit



Courtesy of ASHRAE

# DX (or AC) units reject heat outside...

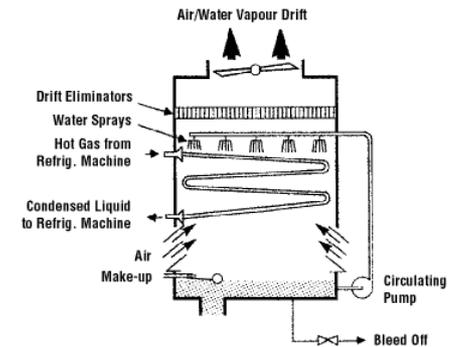
Dry-Cooler DX



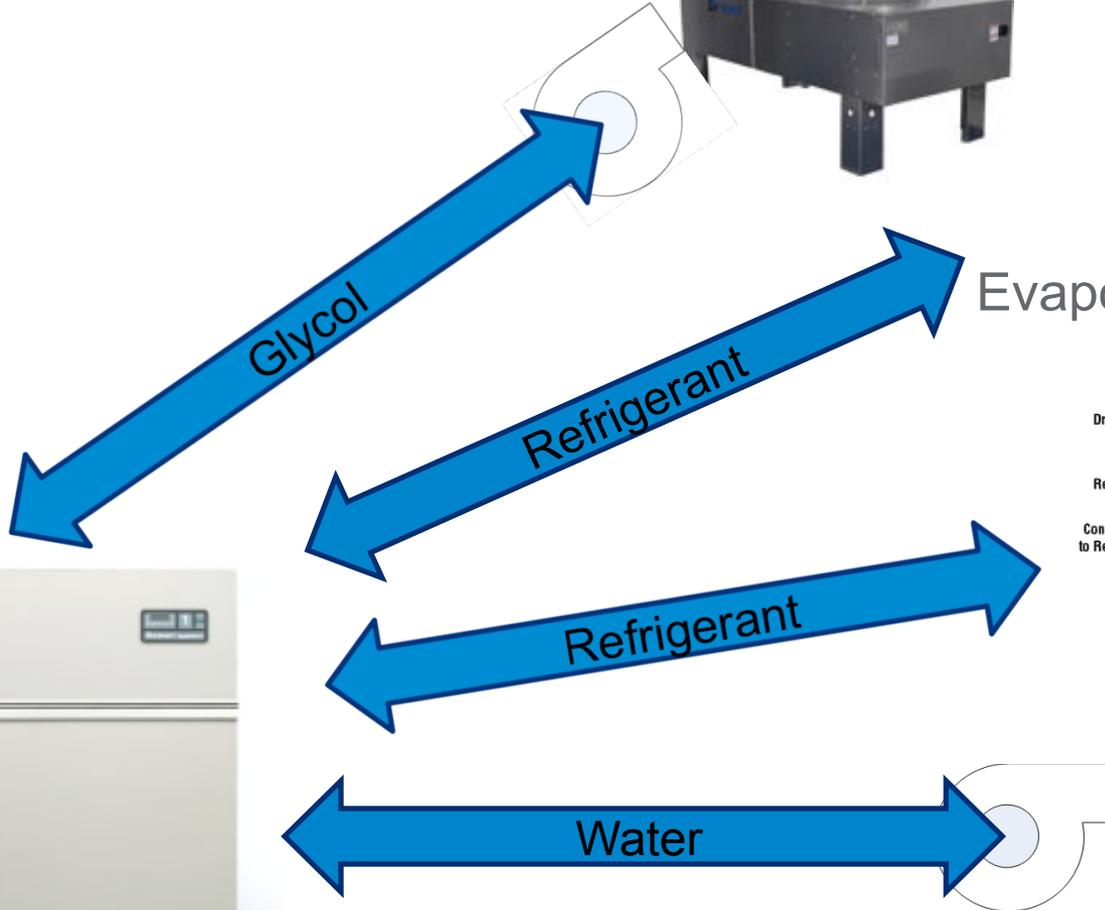
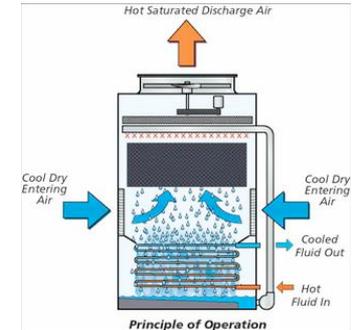
Air-Cooled DX



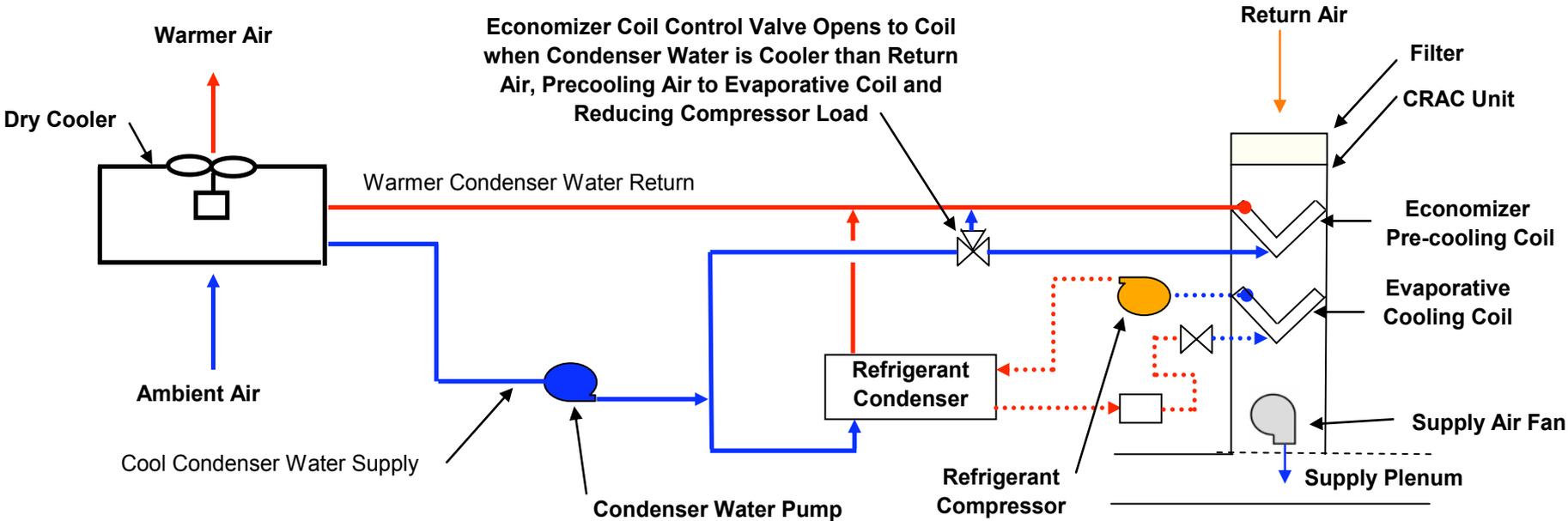
Evaporatively-Cooled DX



Water-Cooled DX



# Dry-Cooler DX with Optional Economizer Coil



..... Dotted lines refer to refrigerant flow

Courtesy of ASHRAE

# Computer Room Air Handling (CRAH) units using Chilled-Water

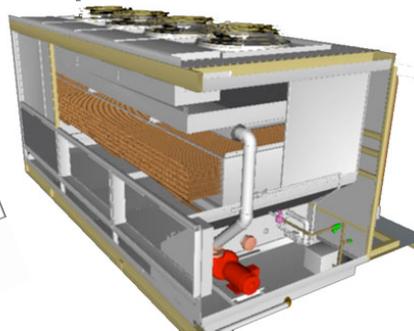
### Air-Cooled Chiller



### Cooling Tower



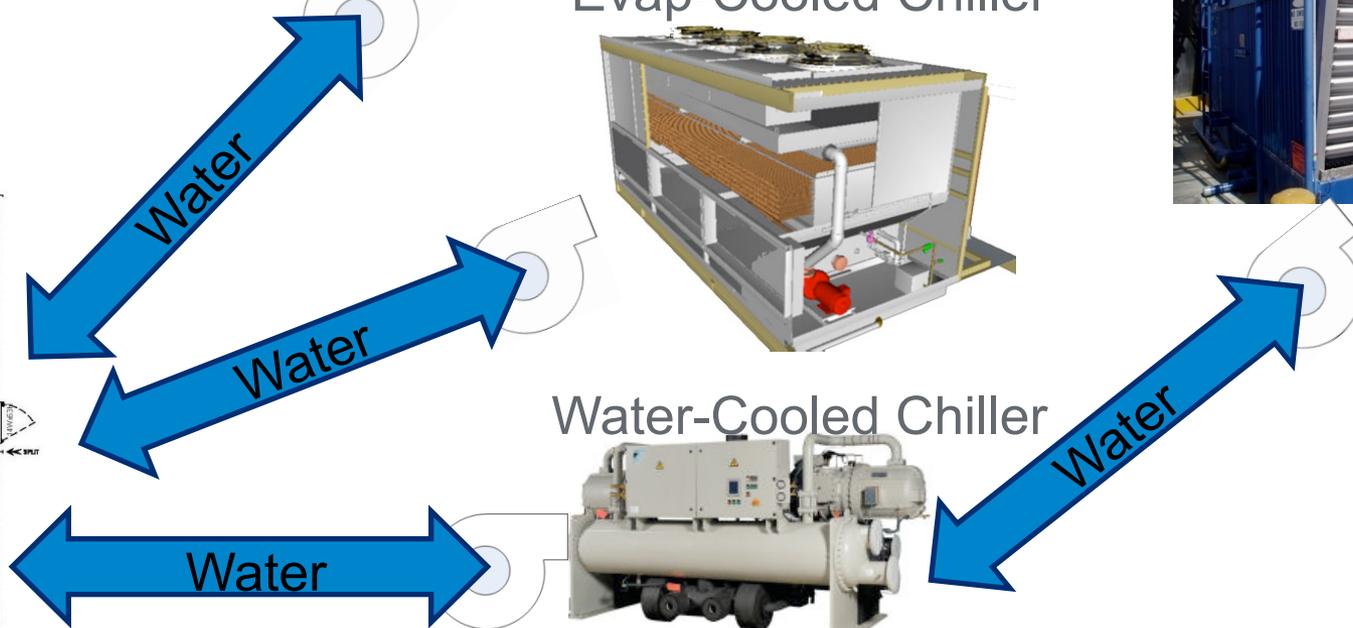
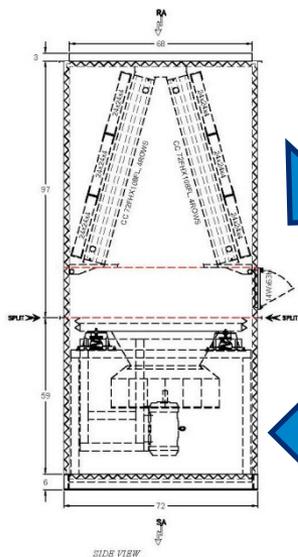
### Evap-Cooled Chiller



### Water-Cooled Chiller



### CRAH

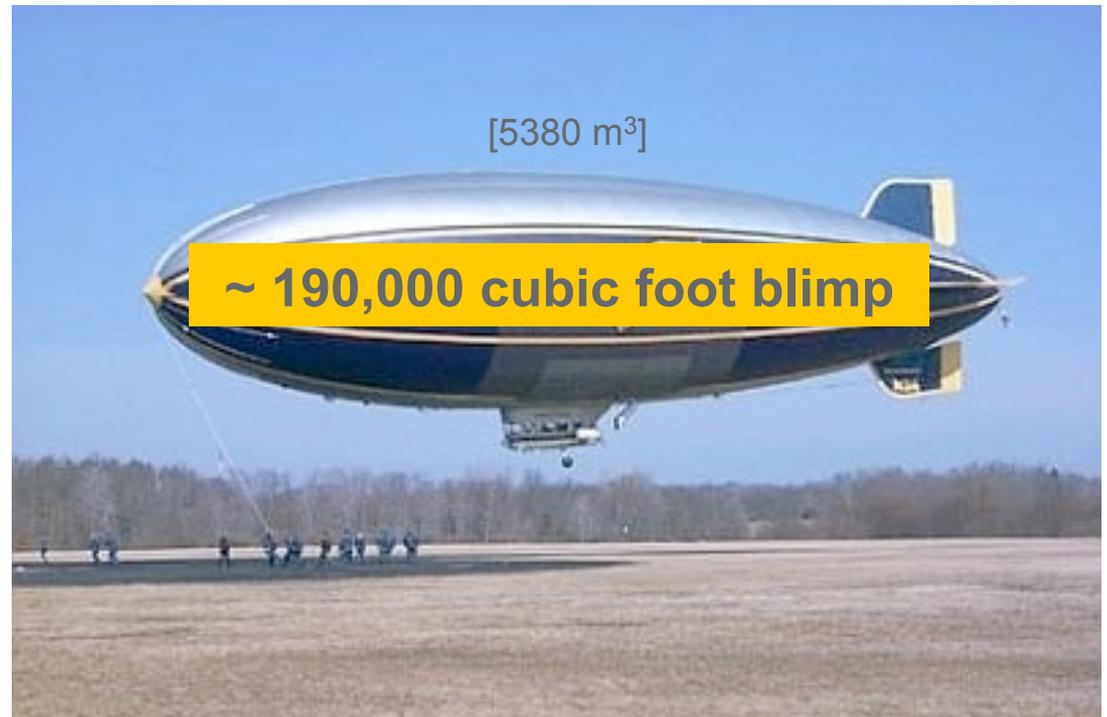


## Volumetric heat capacity comparison



Water

=

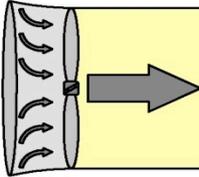


Air

# Liquid Cooling – Overview

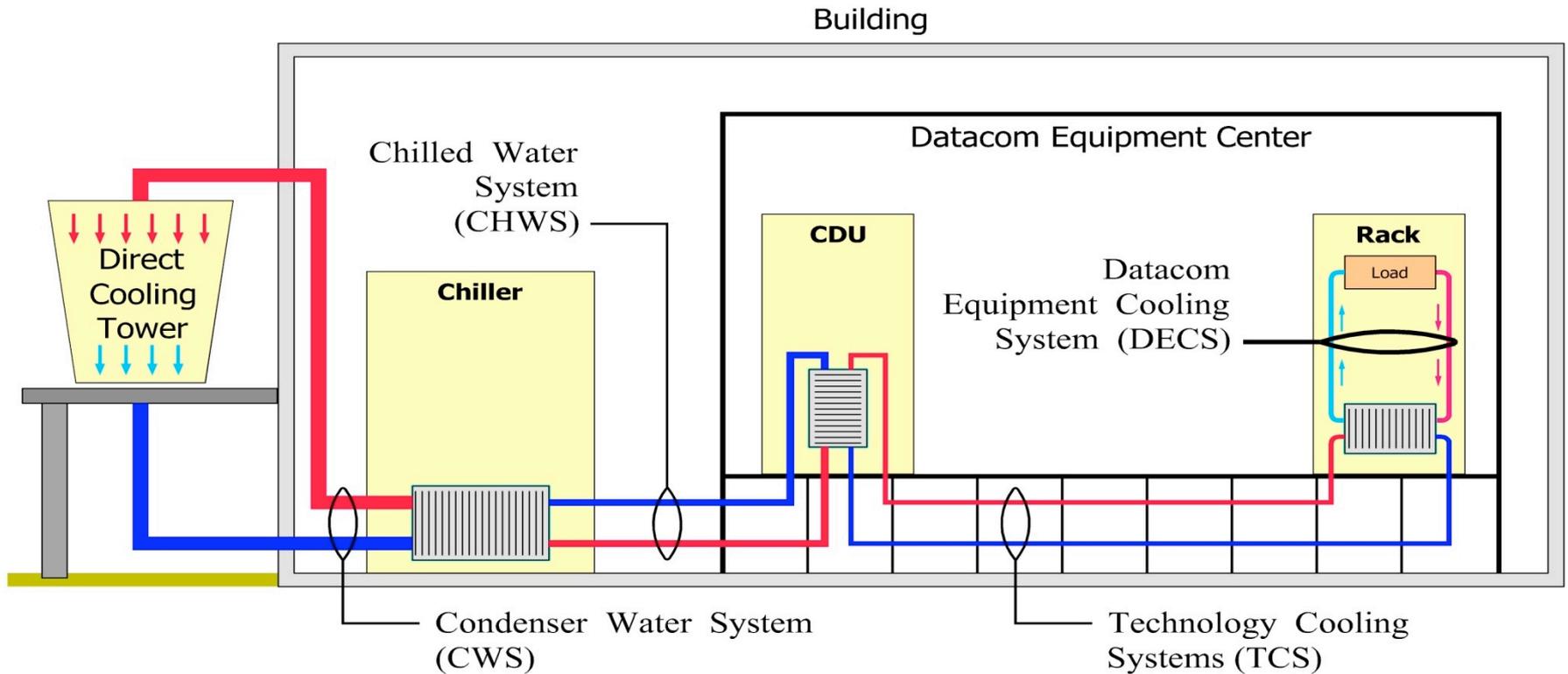
Water and other liquids (dielectrics, glycols and refrigerants) may be used for heat removal.

- Liquids typically use LESS transport energy (14.36 Air to Water Horsepower ratio for example below).
- Liquid-to-liquid heat exchangers have closer approach temps than Liquid-to-air (coils), yielding increased economizer hours.

Heat Transfer		Resultant Energy Requirements			
Rate	$\Delta T$	Heat Transfer Medium	Fluid Flow Rate	Conduit Size	Theoretical Horsepower
10 Tons	12°F	Forced Air 	9217 cfm	34" Ø	3.63 Hp
		Water 	20 gpm	2" Ø	.25 Hp

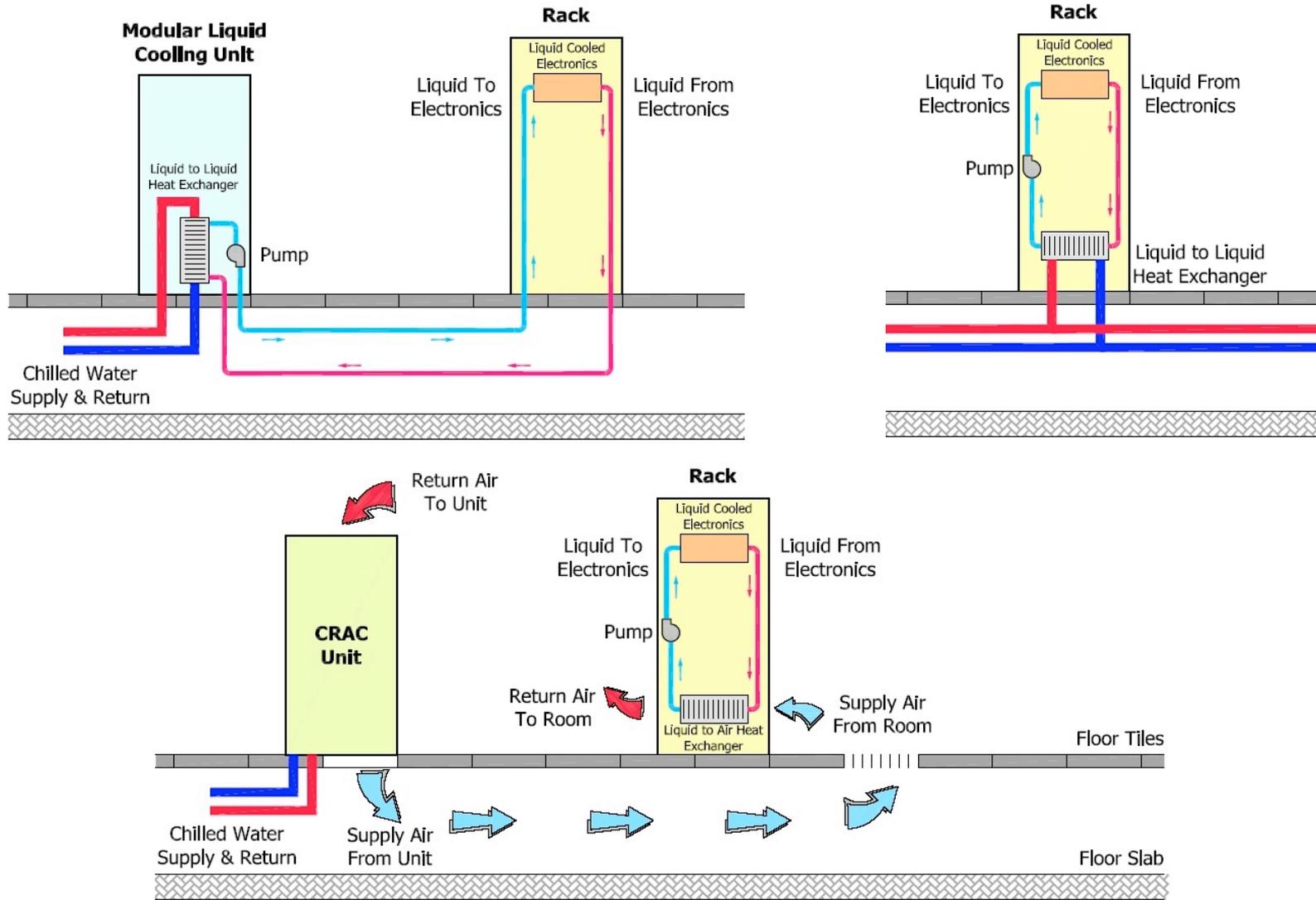
- As server heat densities rise, liquid heat removal solutions become more appropriate.
- Heat removal efficiency increases as the liquid gets closer to the source of heat.
- Liquids can provide cooling with higher temperature coolant.
- Liquids also offer the potential for better re-use of waste heat.

# Liquid Cooling – Systems / Loops

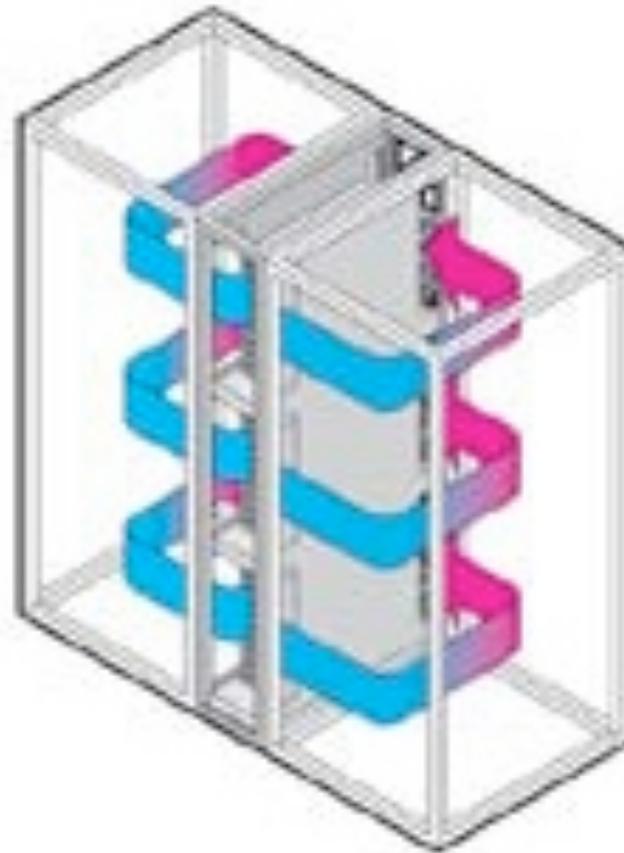


Liquid Cooling Systems / Loops within a Data Center

# Close-coupled Cooling Solutions



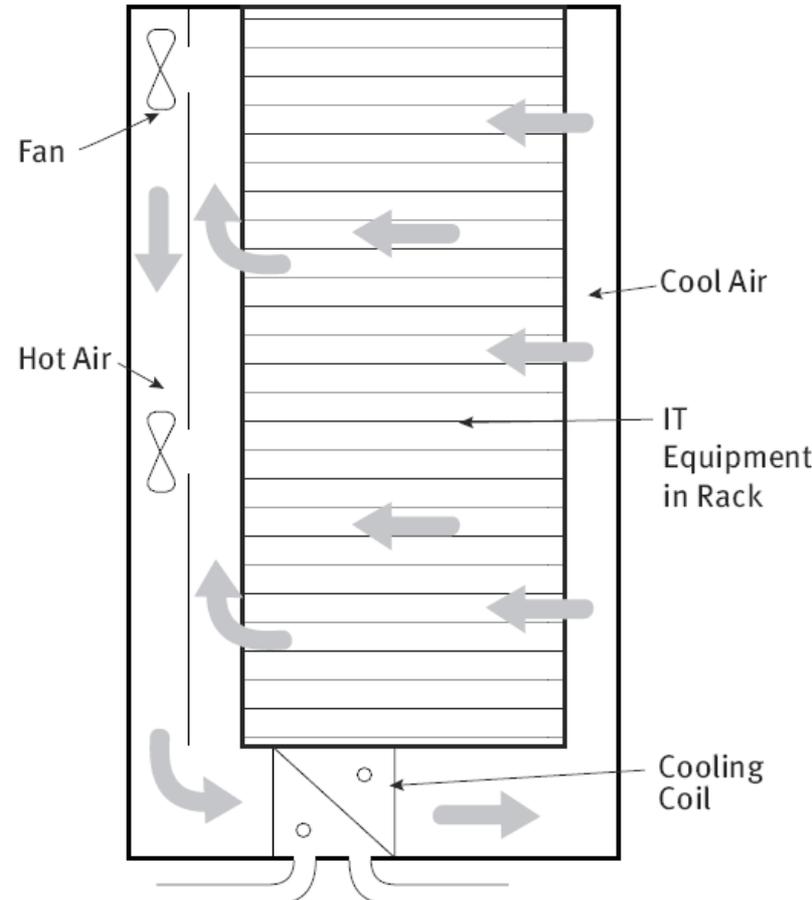
# In-Row Cooling



*Graphics courtesy of Rittal*

# In rack liquid cooling

## Racks with integral coils and full containment



# Rear-Door Liquid Cooling

Rear Door (open)



Inside rack RDHx, open 90°

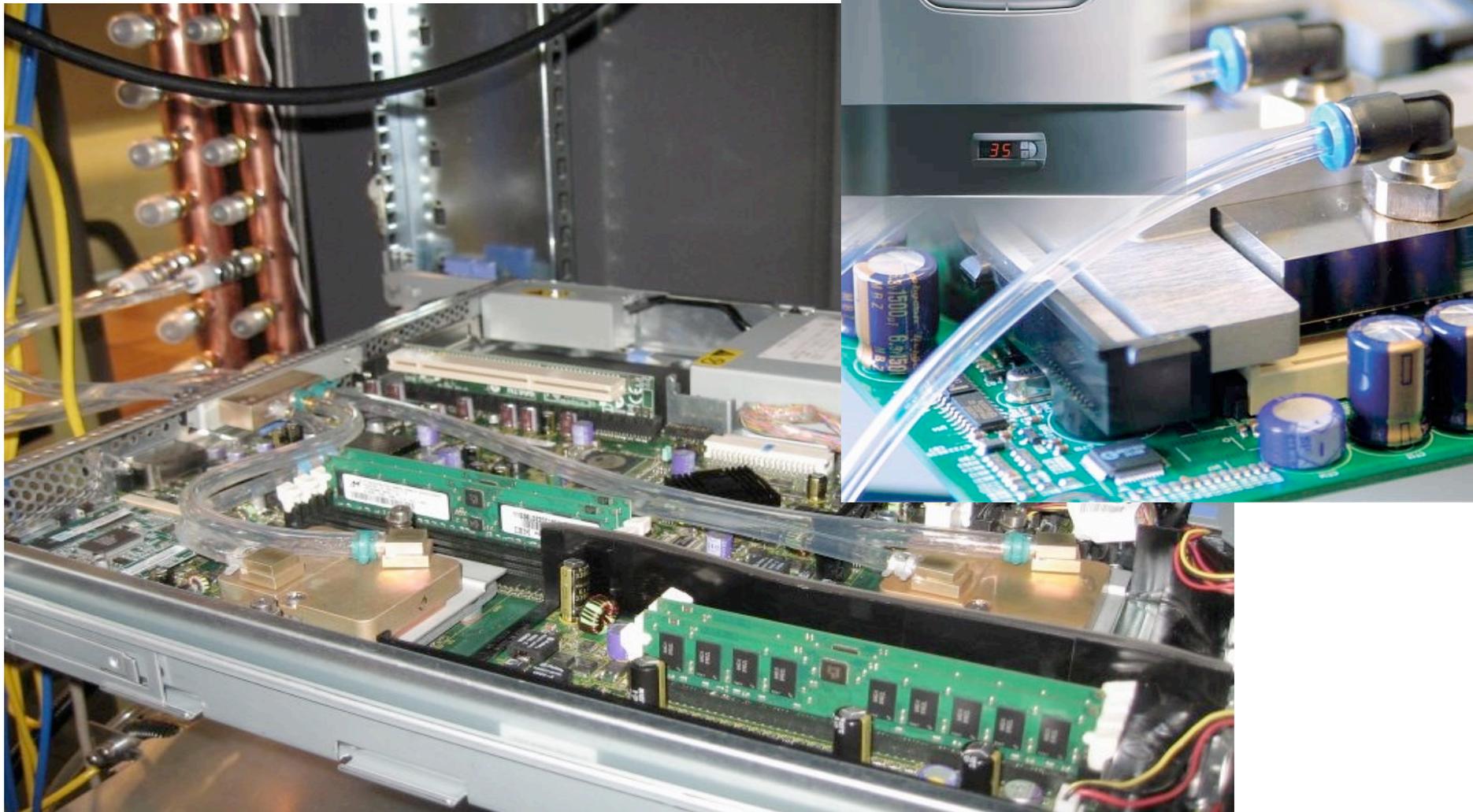
Rear Doors (closed)



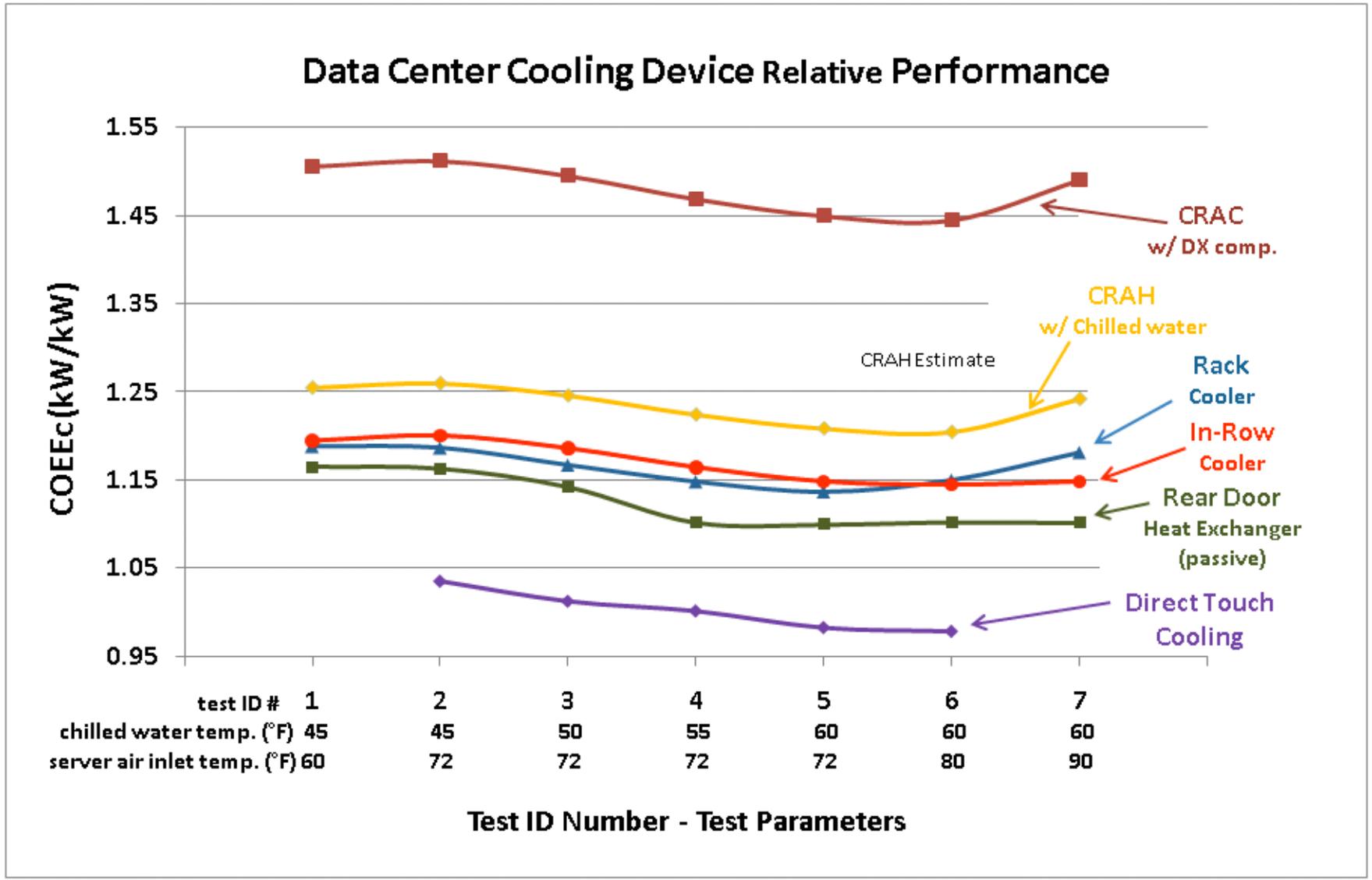
Liquid Cooling Connections



# On Board Cooling



# “Chill-off 2” evaluation of close-coupled cooling solutions



- **Right-size Capacity**
  - Design for high part-load efficiency
- **Chillers (have one)**
  - Type, efficiency, size, VSD
- **Cooling Towers (size for “free” cooling)**
  - Fan type, efficiency, approach, range, speed control, flow turndown
- **Chilled Water Pumps**
  - Arrangement, flow rate (delta-T), pressure drop, VSD
- **Condenser Water Pumps**
  - Flow rate (delta-T), pressure drop
- **Air Handling Units (fewer larger fans and motors better)**
  - Coil sizing, air-side pressure drop, water-side pressure drop
- **Integrate controls and monitor efficiency of all primary components**

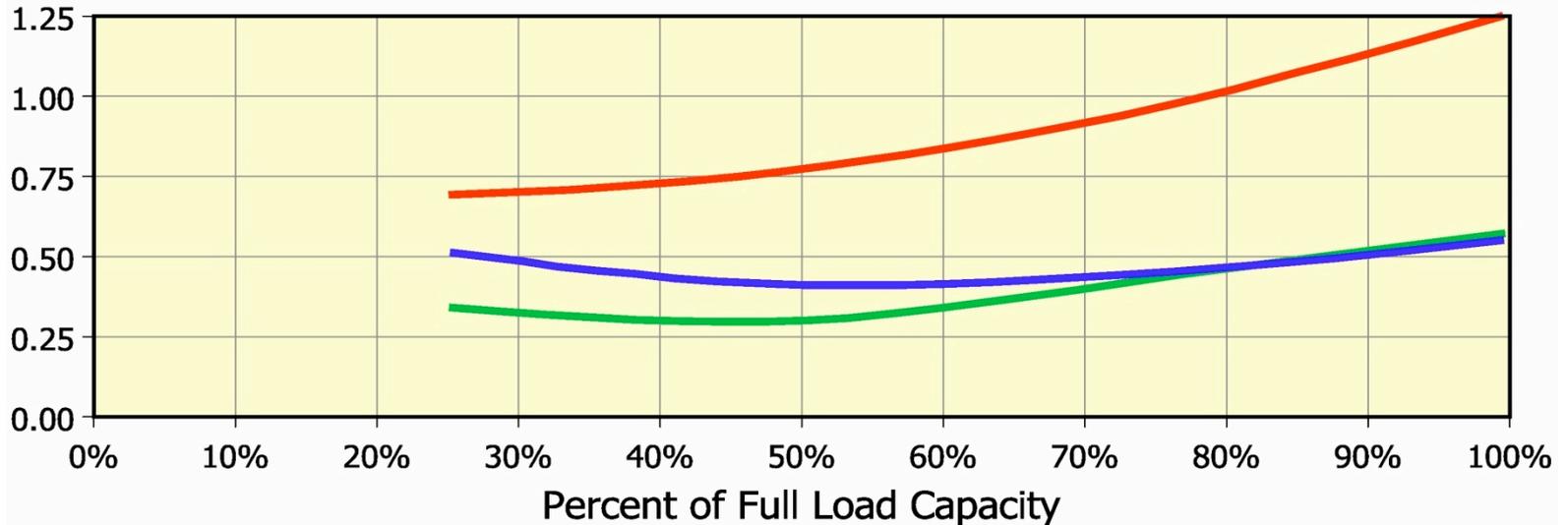
- Consider replacing chillers that are older than 5 years or in poor condition.
- Design for high part load efficiency (e.g. modular with VSD)
- Decrease the entering condenser water temperature
- Raise chilled-water supply temperature
- Recalibrate chilled-water temperature sensors.



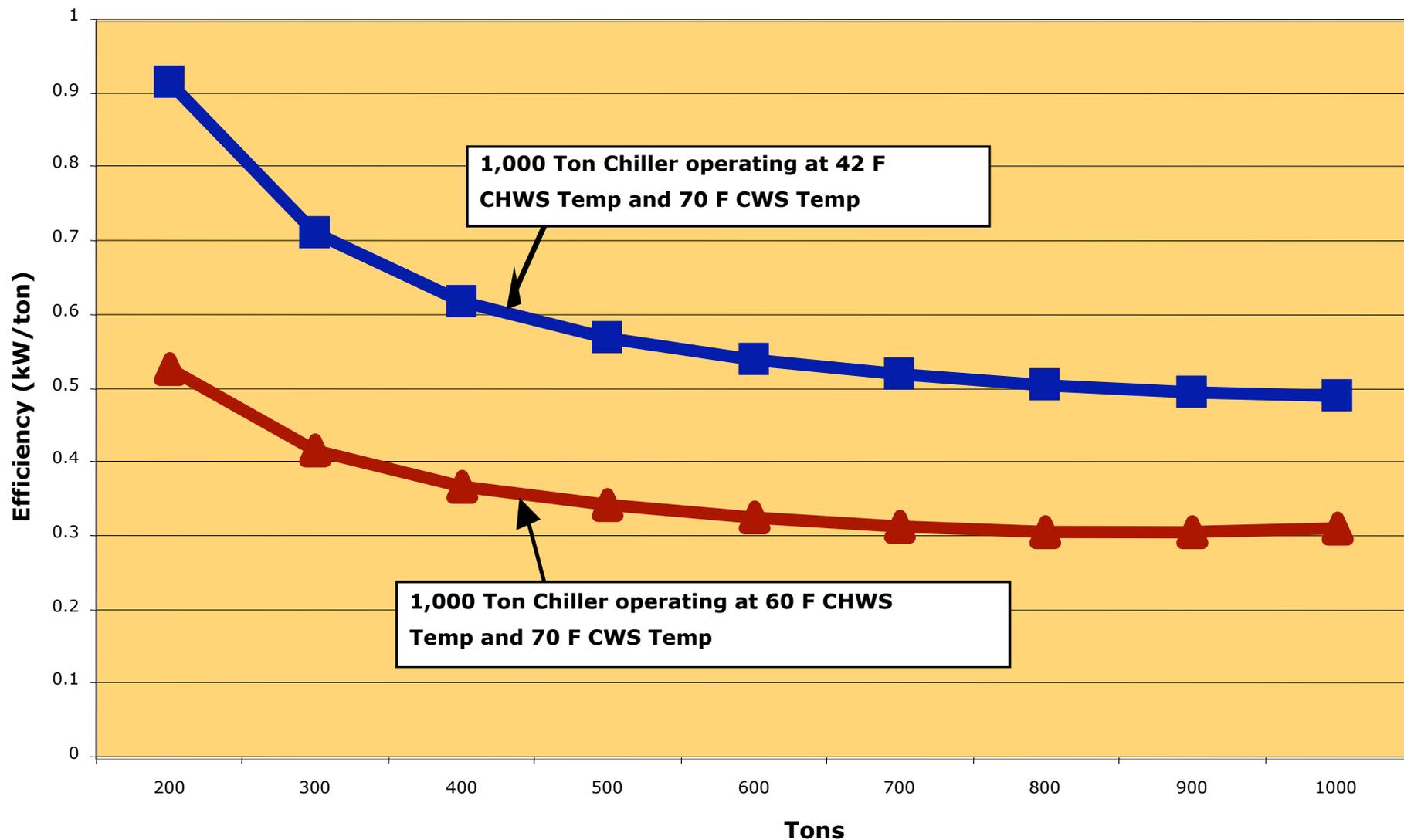
# Cooling Equipment – Chiller Sizing & Selection

Chiller	Compressor kW / ton			
	25%	50%	75%	100%
<b>400 Ton Air Cooled</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.77</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>1.25</b>
<b>1200 Ton Water Cooled w/o VFD</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.41</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.55</b>
<b>1200 Ton Water Cooled with a VFD</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.57</b>

kW Per Ton



# Increase Temperature of Chiller Plant



Data provided by York International Corporation.

# Optimizing Cooling Tower Efficiency

- Add VSDs (variable speed drives) to cooling tower fans.
- Operate cooling towers in parallel
- Recalibrate condenser water temperature sensors.



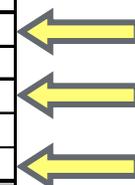
- Convert all 3-way chilled-water valves to 2-way.
- Install VSDs.
- Remove any triple-duty valves or balancing valves on pumps.



- Eliminate inadvertent dehumidification
  - Computer load is sensible only
- Use ASHRAE allowable RH and temperature
  - Many manufacturers allow even wider humidity range
- Defeat equipment fighting
  - Coordinate controls

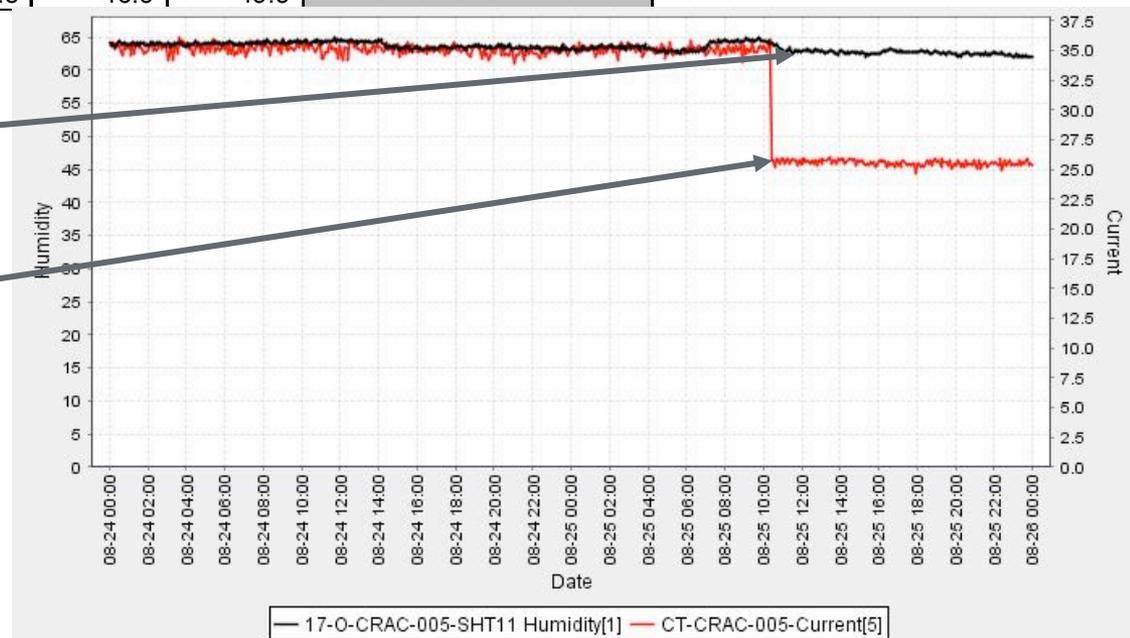
# Cost of Unnecessary Humidification

	Visalia Probe			CRAC Unit Panel			
	Temp	RH	Tdp	Temp	RH	Tdp	Mode
AC 005	84.0	27.5	47.0	76	32.0	44.1	Cooling
AC 006	81.8	28.5	46.1	55	51.0	37.2	Cooling & Dehumidification
AC 007	72.8	38.5	46.1	70	47.0	48.9	Cooling
AC 008	80.0	31.5	47.2	74	43.0	50.2	Cooling & Humidification
AC 010	77.5	32.8	46.1	68	45.0	45.9	Cooling
AC 011	78.9	31.4	46.1	70	43.0	46.6	Cooling & Humidification
Min	72.8	27.5	46.1	55.0	32.0	37.2	
Max	84.0	38.5	47.2	76.0	51.0	50.2	
Avg	79.2	31.7	46.4	68.8	43.5	45.5	



Humidity down ~2%

CRAC power down 28%



## Cooling without Compressors:

- Outside-Air Economizers
- Water-side Economizers
- Let's get rid of chillers in data centers

### Avg. Power for Cooling

HVAC Cooling	23%
HVAC Fans	8%
TOTAL	31%

Using 100% Economizer

Energy Savings =  $23 / 31$

= 74%



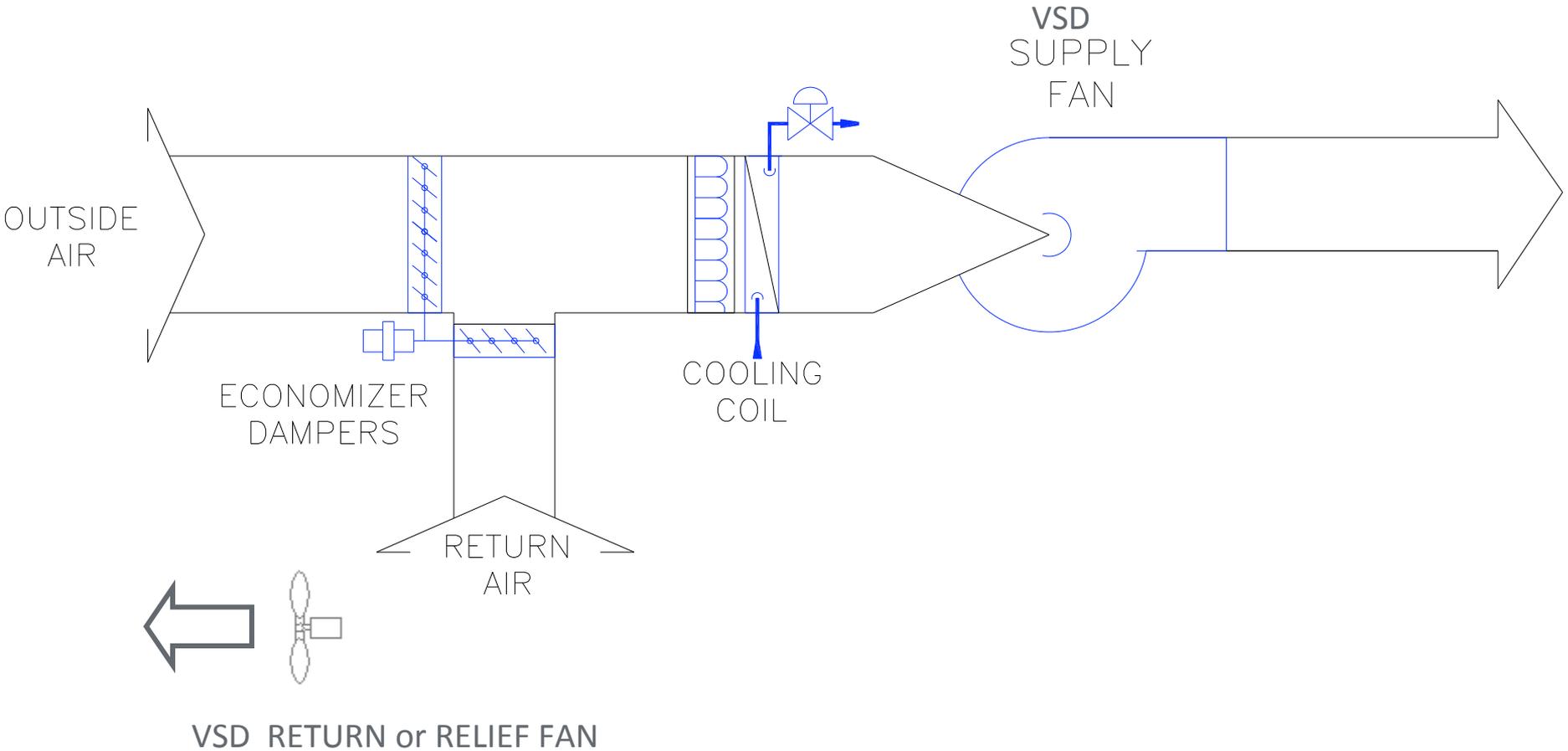
## Advantages

- Lower energy use
- Added reliability (backup in the event of cooling system failure)
- Better IAQ
- Backup to mechanical cooling.

## Potential Issues

- Installation space.
- Dust (not a concern with Merv 13 filters).
- Gaseous contaminants
  - Not widespread
  - Can test using coupons
- Need low dew-point switch if used with humidification
- Shutdown if smoke is outside data center.

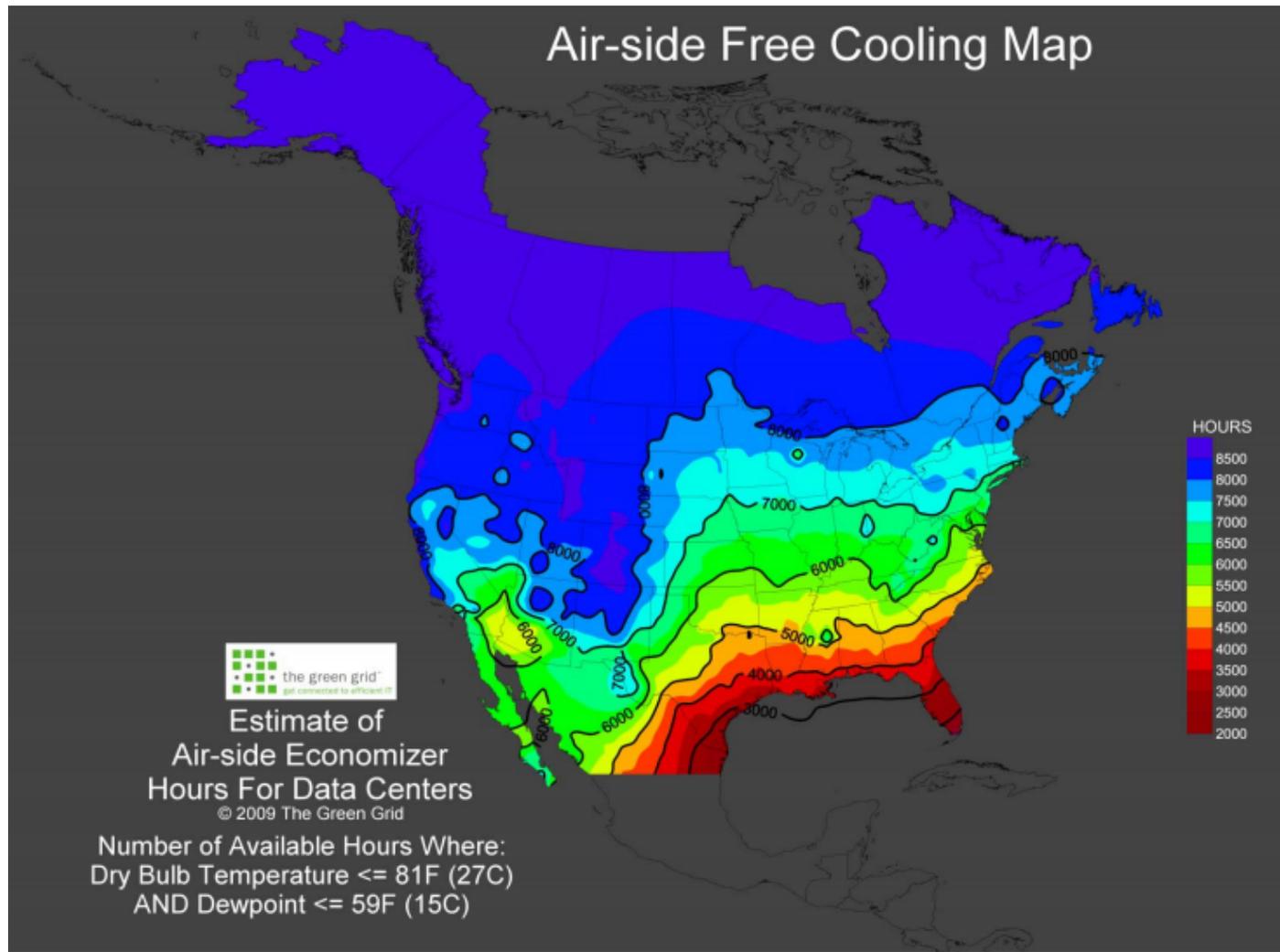
# Outside-Air Economizer



- **Fan Capacity:** Air flow (CFM) is proportional to speed (RPM) of fan
- **Fan Power:** Power (HP) is proportional to [speed (RPM) of fan]<sup>3</sup>

<b>Fan Power at Varying Air Flow</b>						
<b>Air Flow</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Fan Speed</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Fan Power</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>13%</b>

# Air-Side Economizer – Free Cooling Hours



Map Courtesy of The Green Grid

[http://cooling.thegreengrid.org/namerica/WEB\\_APP/calc\\_index.html](http://cooling.thegreengrid.org/namerica/WEB_APP/calc_index.html)

# UC's Computational Research and Theory (CRT) Facility

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

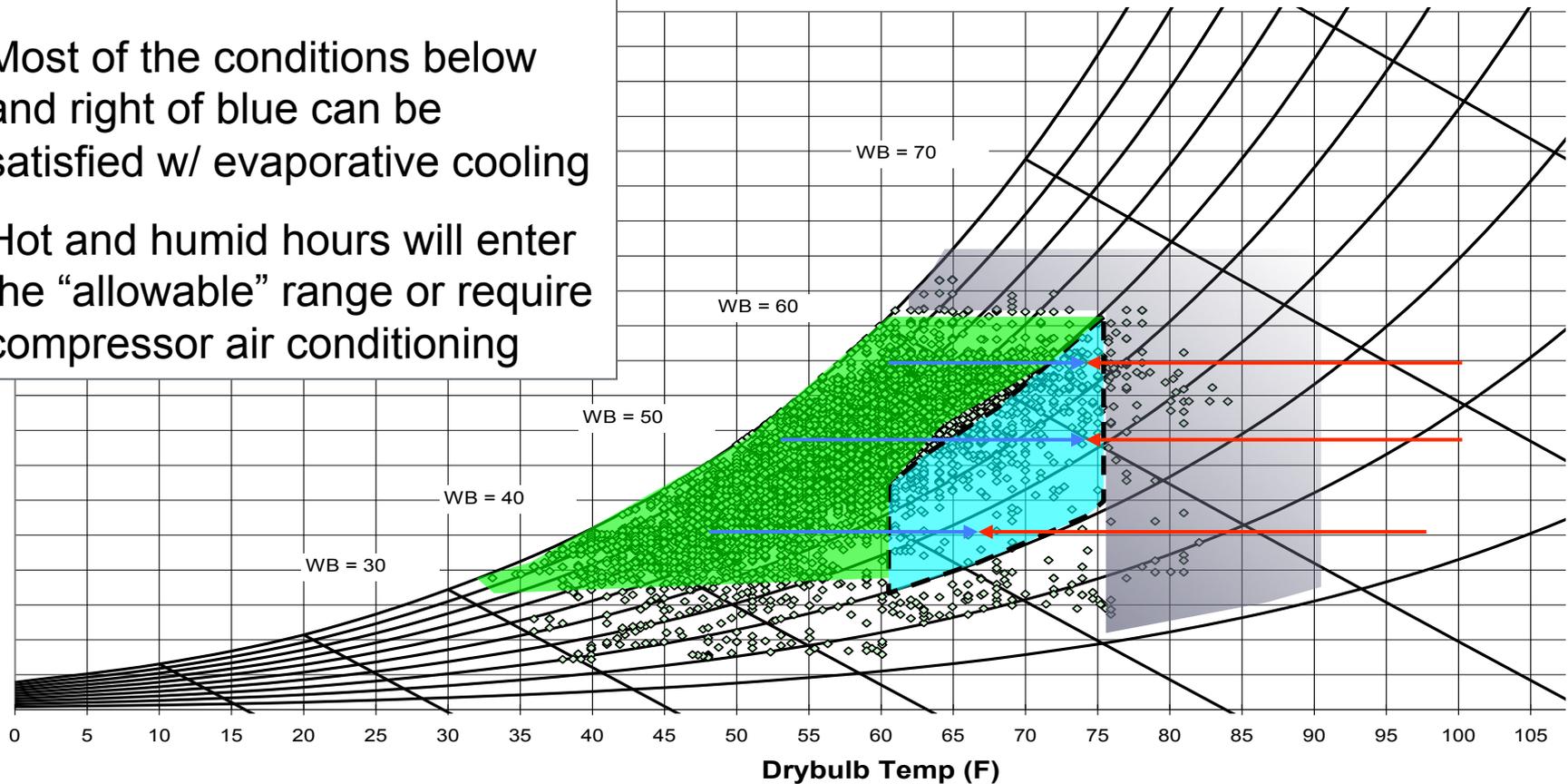
Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy



# Free Cooling – Outside Air Based

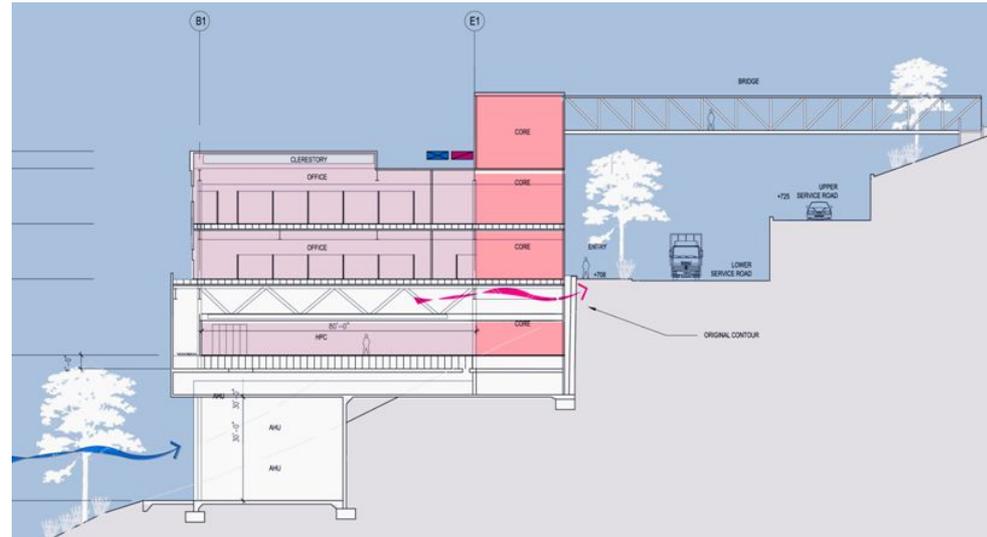
1. Blue = recommended supply
2. Green can become blue mixing return and outdoor air
3. Most of the conditions below and right of blue can be satisfied w/ evaporative cooling
4. Hot and humid hours will enter the “allowable” range or require compressor air conditioning

**Annual Psychrometric Chart of Oakland, CA**  
(relative humidity lines are stepped by 10%,  
wetbulb lines by 10 degrees F)



# System Design Approach:

- Air-Side Economizer (93% of hours)
- Direct Evaporative Cooling for Humidification/ pre-cooling
- Low Pressure-Drop Design (1.5" total static peak)



## Hours of Operation

Mode 1  
Mode 2  
Mode 3  
Mode 4  
Mode 5  
total

100% Economiser	2207	hrs
OA + RA	5957	hrs
Humidification	45	hrs
Humid + CH cooling	38	hrs
CH only	513	hrs
	8760	hrs

## Predicted CRT Performance:

- PUE of 1.1 based on annual energy
- Closed-loop treated cooling water from cooling towers (via heat exchanger)
- Chilled water from chillers
- Allows multiple temperature feeds at server locations
- Headers, valves and caps for modularity and flexibility



## Advantages

- Very cost effective in cool and dry climates
- Often easier retrofit
- Added reliability (backup in the event of chiller failure).

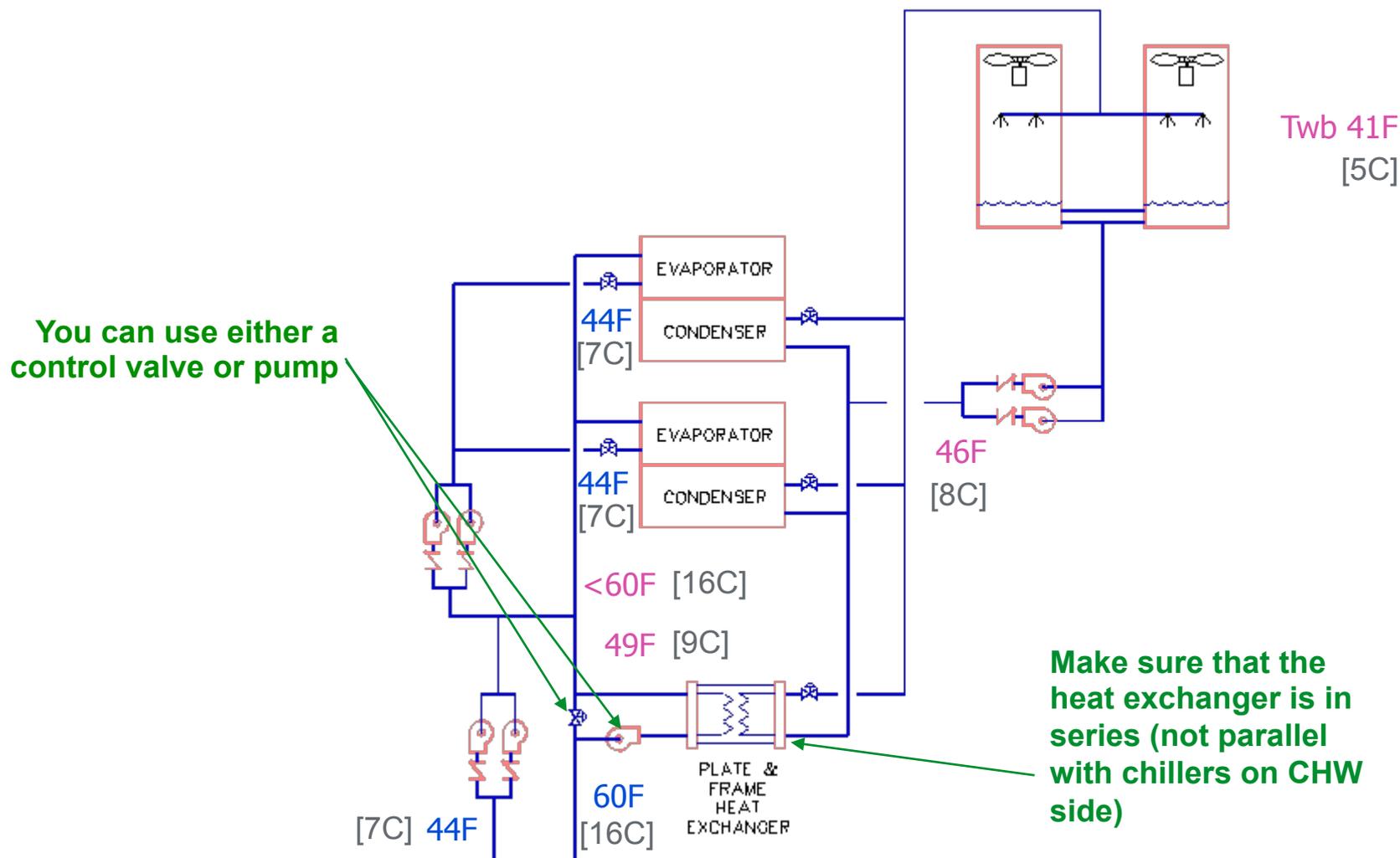


## Potential Issues

- Heat exchanger should be “integrated” with chillers (not parallel).
- Works best with high delta-T (warm CHWR temperatures).

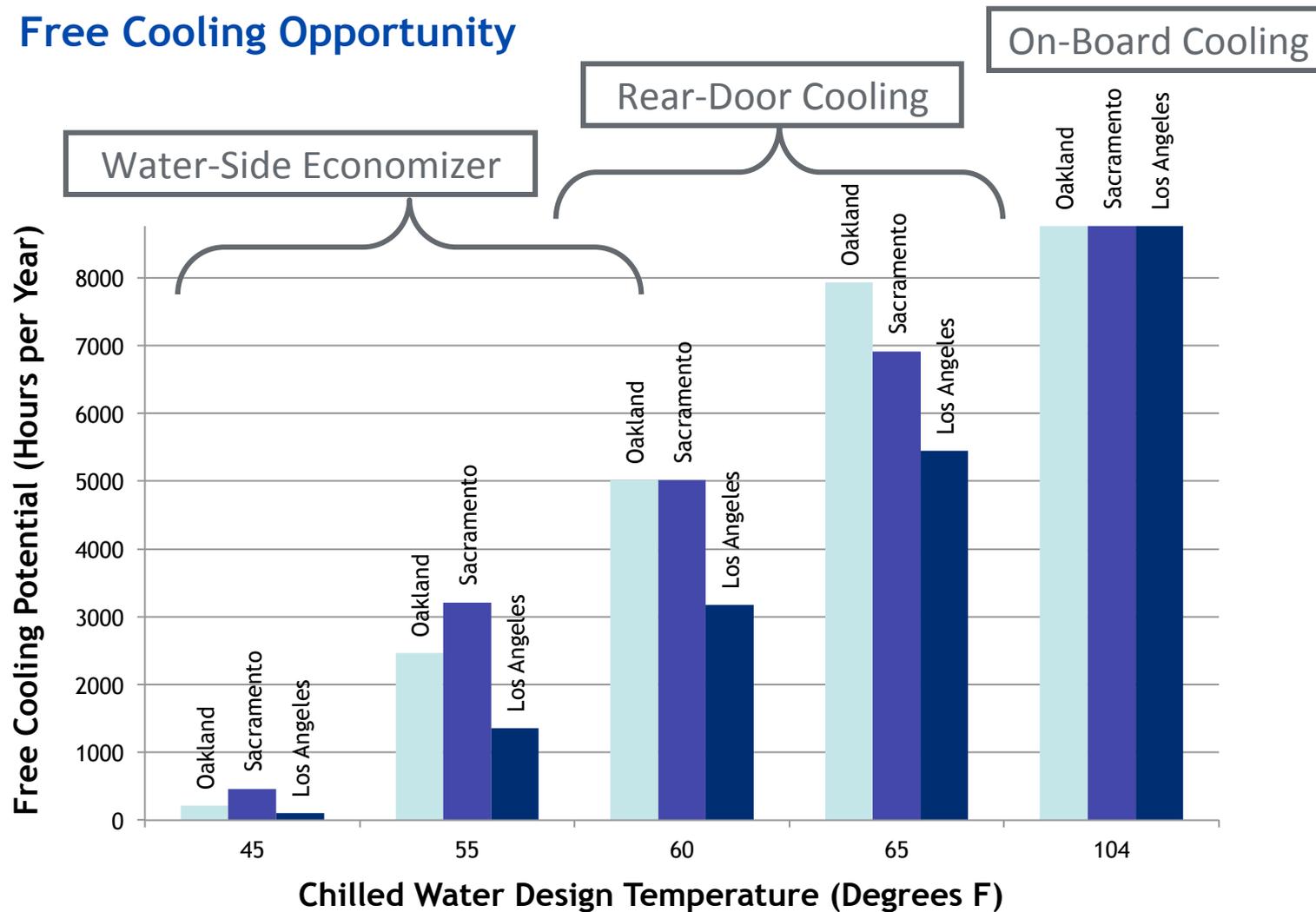


# Integrated Water-Side Economizer



# Potential for Tower Cooling

## Free Cooling Opportunity



# LBNL Example: Rear Door Cooling

- Used instead of adding CRAC units
- Rear door water cooling with tower-only (or central chiller plant in series).
  - Both options significantly more efficient than existing direct expansion (DX) CRAC units.



- Use a central plant (e.g. chiller/CRAHs) vs. CRAC units
- Use centralized controls on CRAC/CRAH units to prevent simultaneous humidifying and dehumidifying.
- Move to liquid cooling (room, row, rack, chip)
- Consider VSDs on fans, pumps, chillers, and towers
- Use air- or water-side economizers where possible.
- Expand humidity range and improve humidity control (or disconnect).

- ASHRAE Datacom Series  
[www.ashrae.com](http://www.ashrae.com)
- LBNL  
<http://hightech.lbl.gov/datacenters.html>
- Uptime <http://www.uptimeinstitute.org>

# Questions?



**Let's take a Break...**

## Morning

- Introductions to course and instructors - Sartor
- Performance metrics and benchmarking – Sartor

## Break

- IT equipment and software efficiency - Bell
- Use IT to save IT (monitoring and dashboards) - Bell
- Data center environmental conditions – Bell

## Lunch

## Afternoon

- Airflow management- Sartor
- Cooling systems – Bell

## Break

- **Electrical systems - Sartor**
- **Summary and Takeaways – Bell/Sartor**



# Electrical Systems

Presented by: Dale Sartor, PE



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



- Every power conversion (AC-DC, DC-AC, AC-AC) loses some energy and creates heat
- Efficiency decreases when systems are lightly loaded
- Distributing higher voltage is more efficient and saves capital cost (conductor size is smaller)
- Uninterruptible power supply (UPS), transformer, and PDU efficiencies vary – carefully review
- Efficiency of power supplies in IT equipment varies
- Lowering distribution losses also lowers cooling loads

- IT Design Load historically was typically based on IT Nameplate load rating plus future growth. In many cases the IT equipment is not known when the data center is designed.

**Problem – actual IT loads are <25% of nameplate**

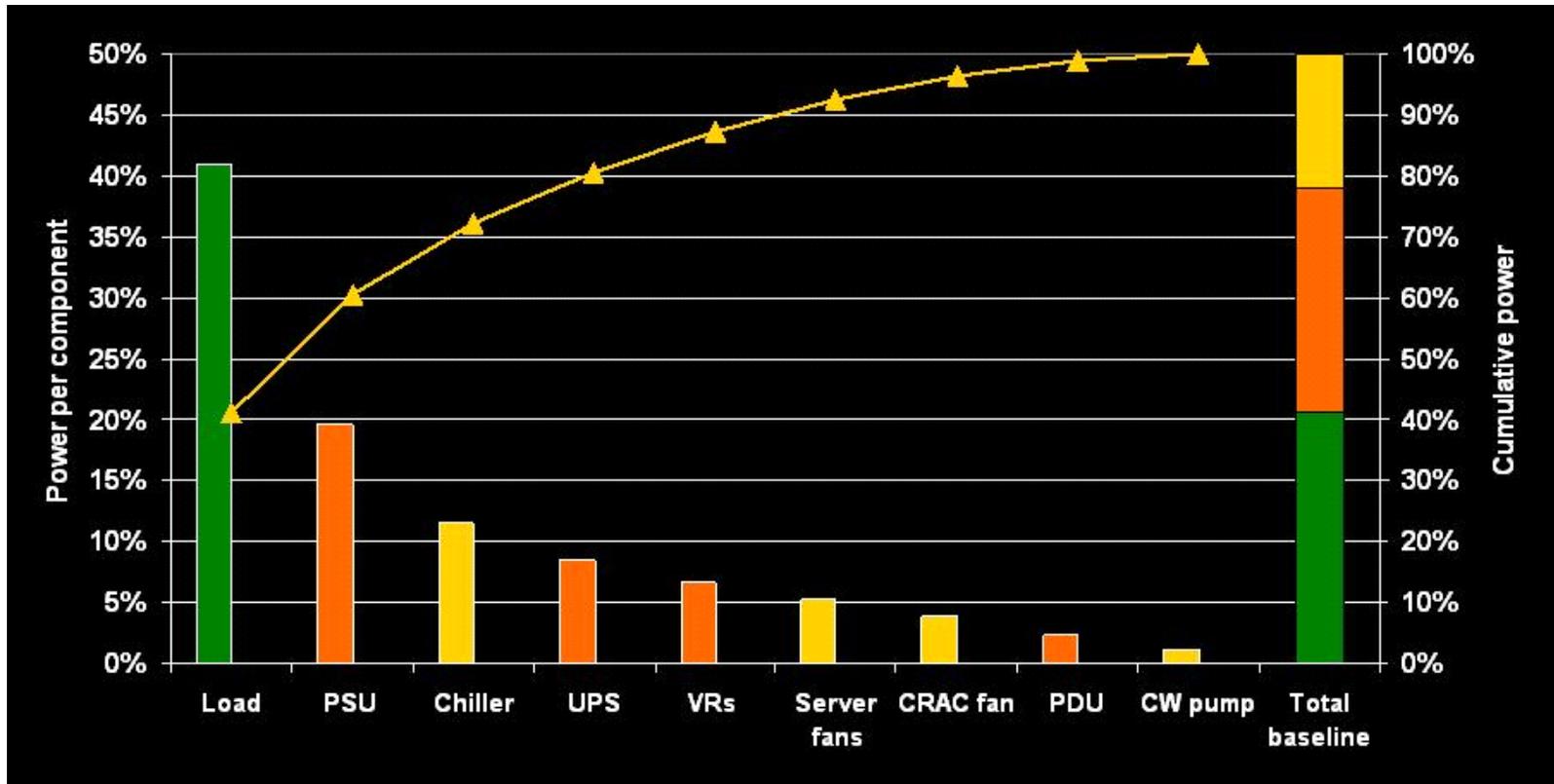
- IT load was determined on a Watts/sf basis
- Problem –IT loads are now concentrated**

- UPS systems are sized for IT load plus 20-50%

**Problem – load was already oversized**

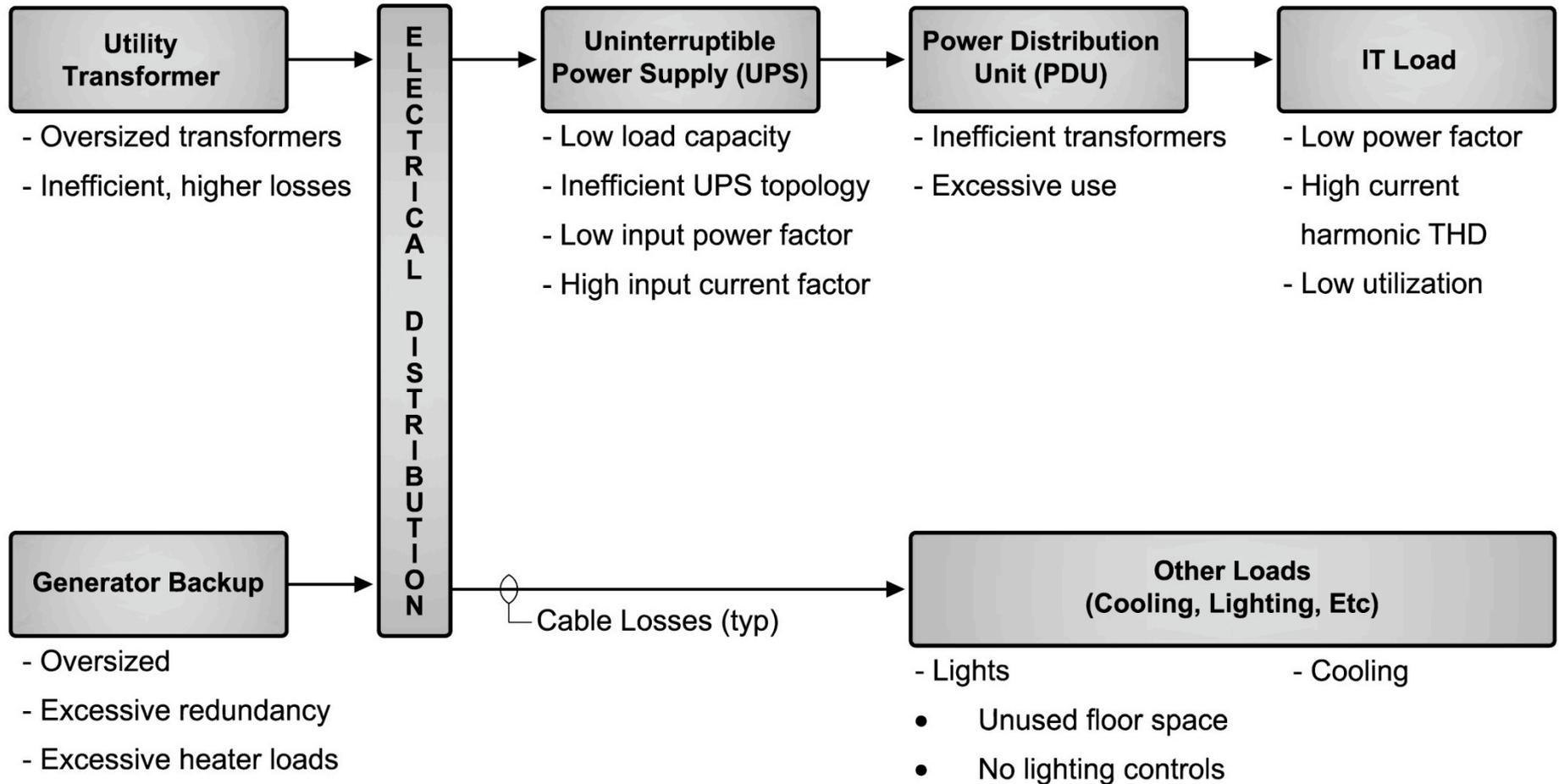


# Electrical system end use – Orange bars



Courtesy of Michael Patterson, Intel Corporation

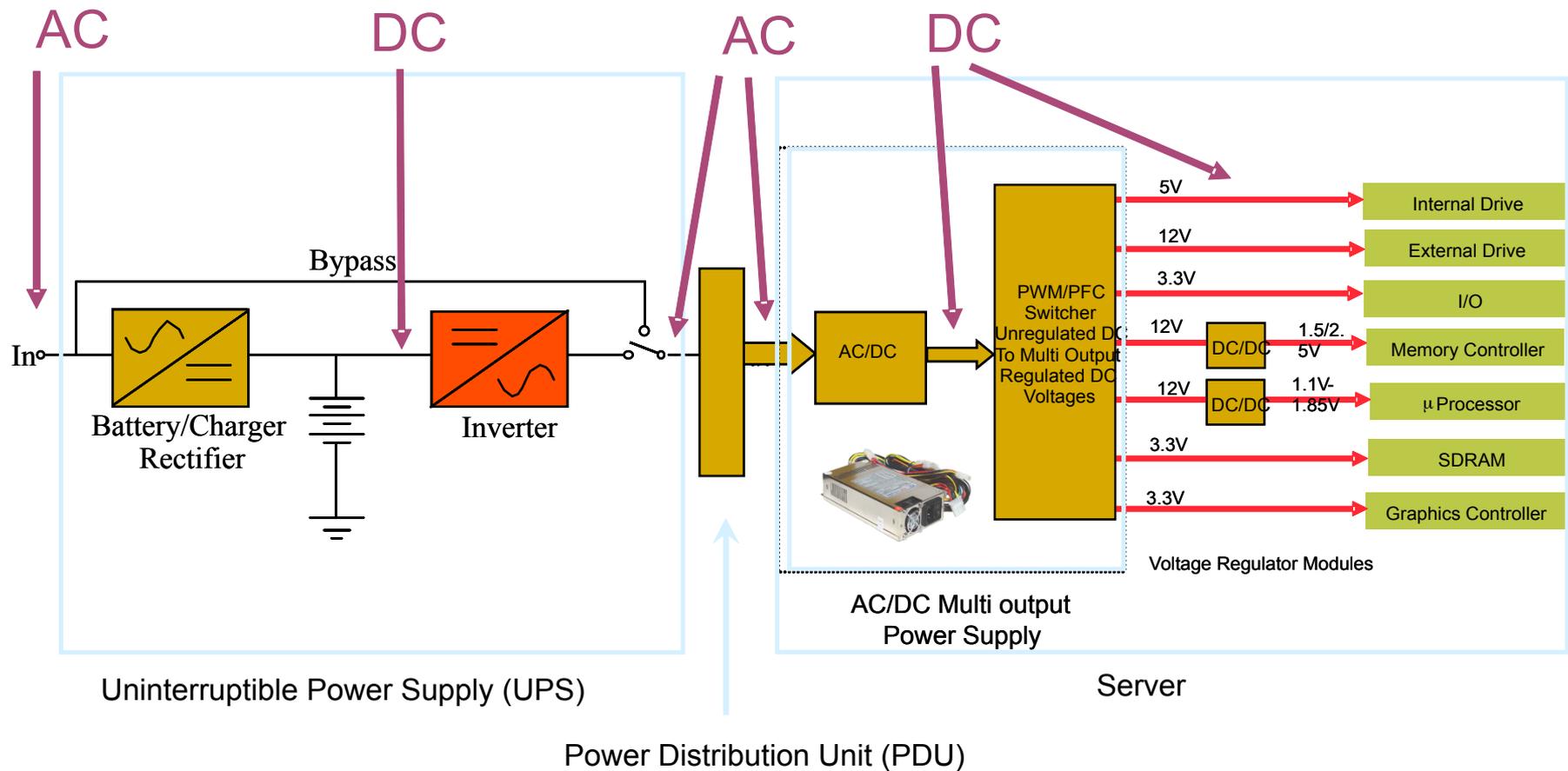
# Electrical Systems – Points of Energy Inefficiency



## Reduce electrical distribution conversion losses:

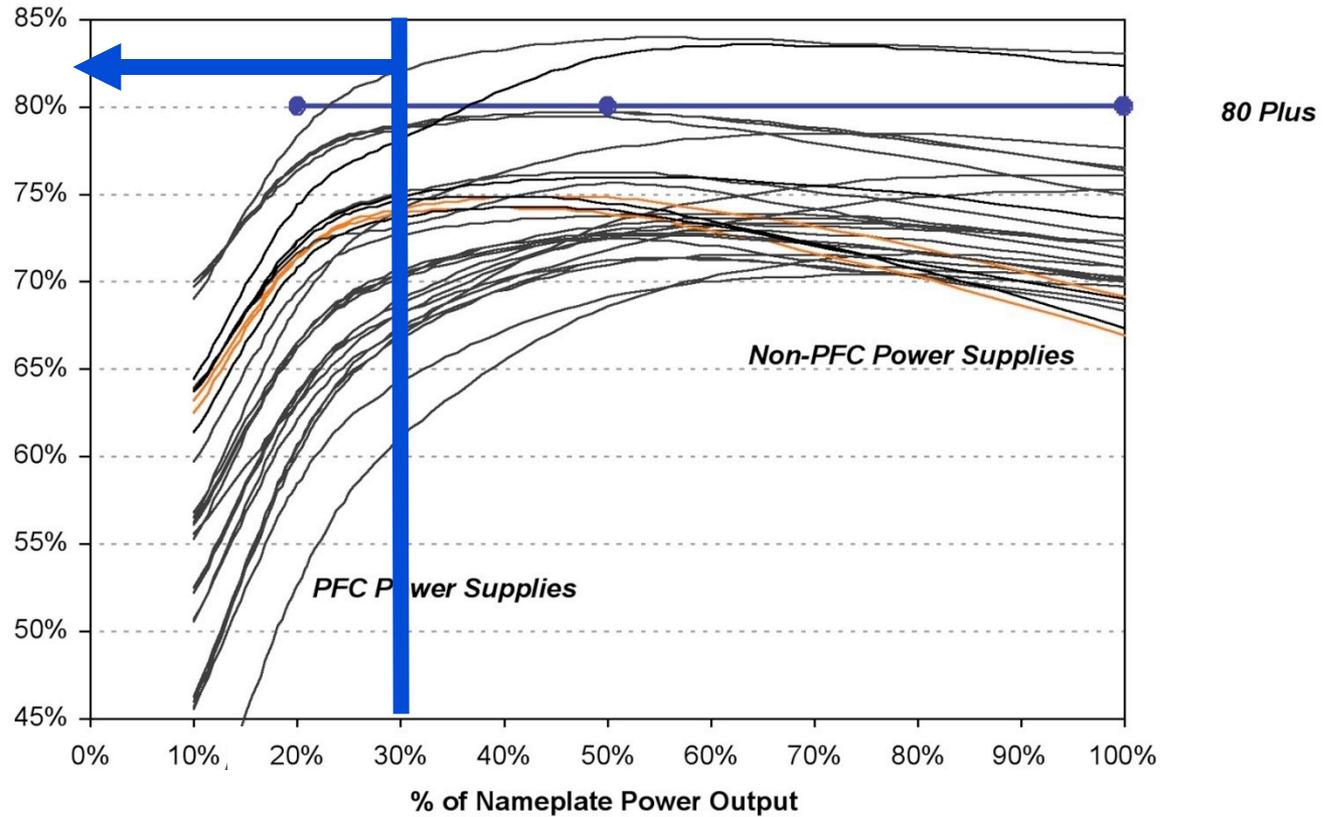
- Choose UPSs with high efficiency (low losses) throughout their expected operating range. UPS efficiency varies by model and topology.
  - Line-interactive or flywheel UPS efficiency can vary from 95-98%
  - Double conversion UPS efficiency can be 86-95%
  - Lightly loaded UPS systems are typically much less efficient
- Redundancy should be used only to the required level. (N+1 is much different than 2N)
- Select high efficiency transformers including those in Power Distribution Units (PDUs)
- Distribute high voltage AC or DC power to the point of use.

# From utility power to the chip – multiple electrical power conversions

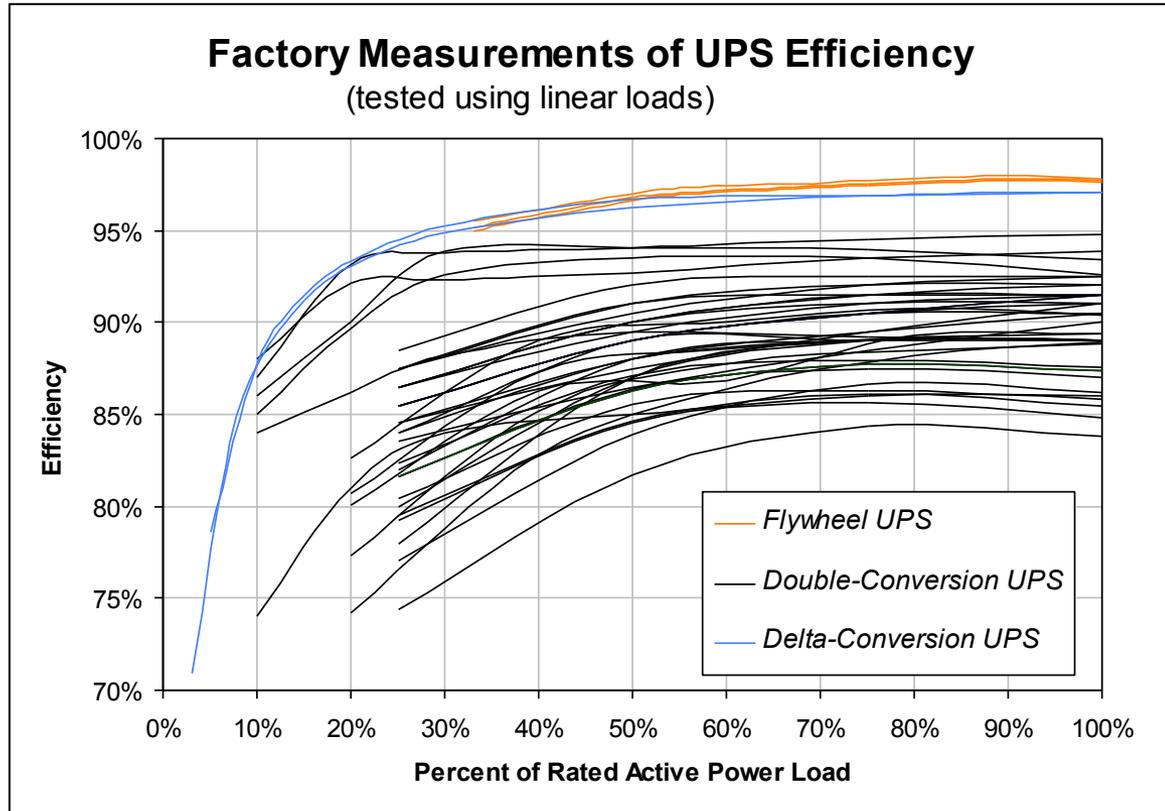


# LBNL/EPRI measured power supply efficiency

### Measured Server Power Supply Efficiencies (all form factors)

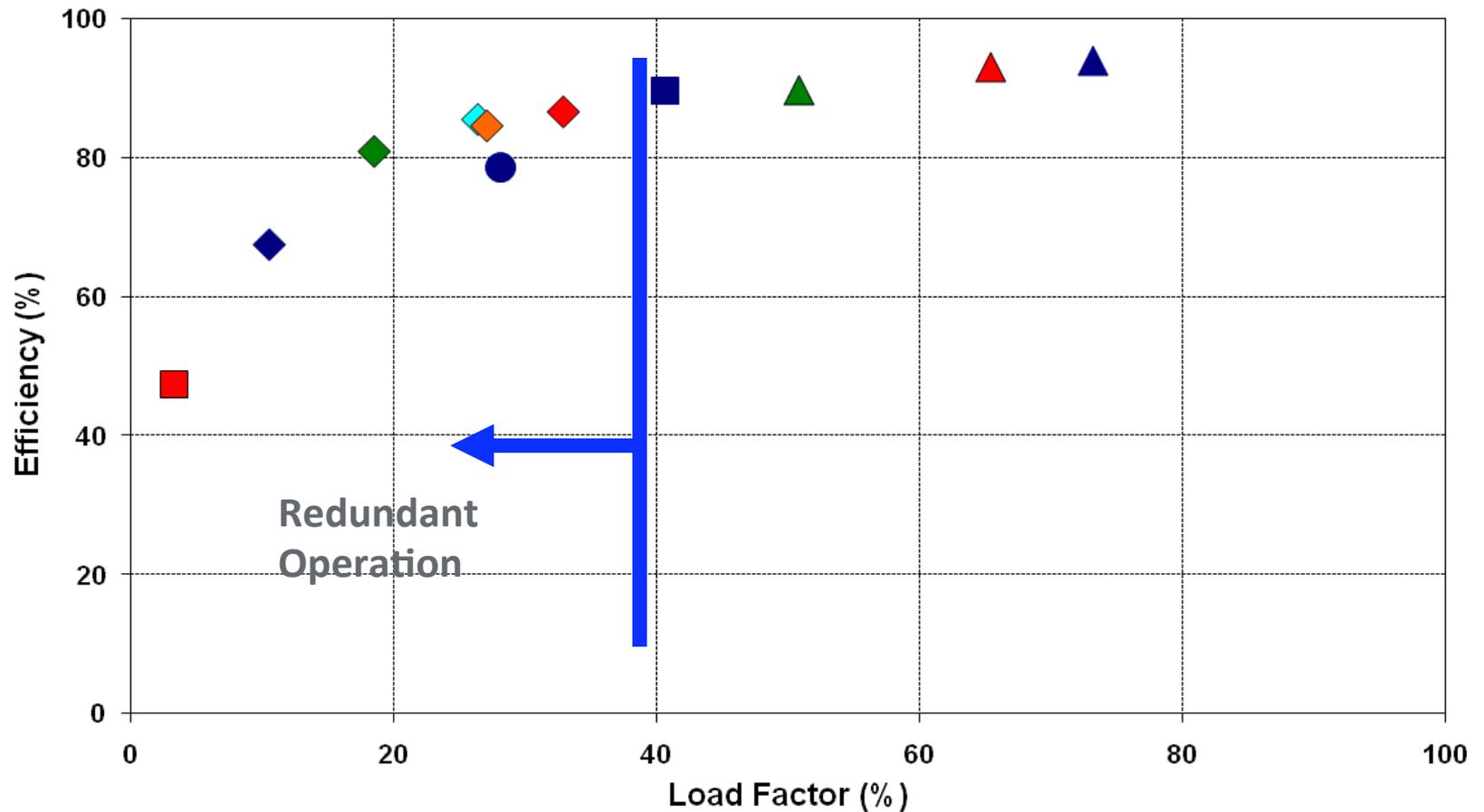


- Efficiencies vary with system design, equipment, and load
- Redundancies will always impact efficiency



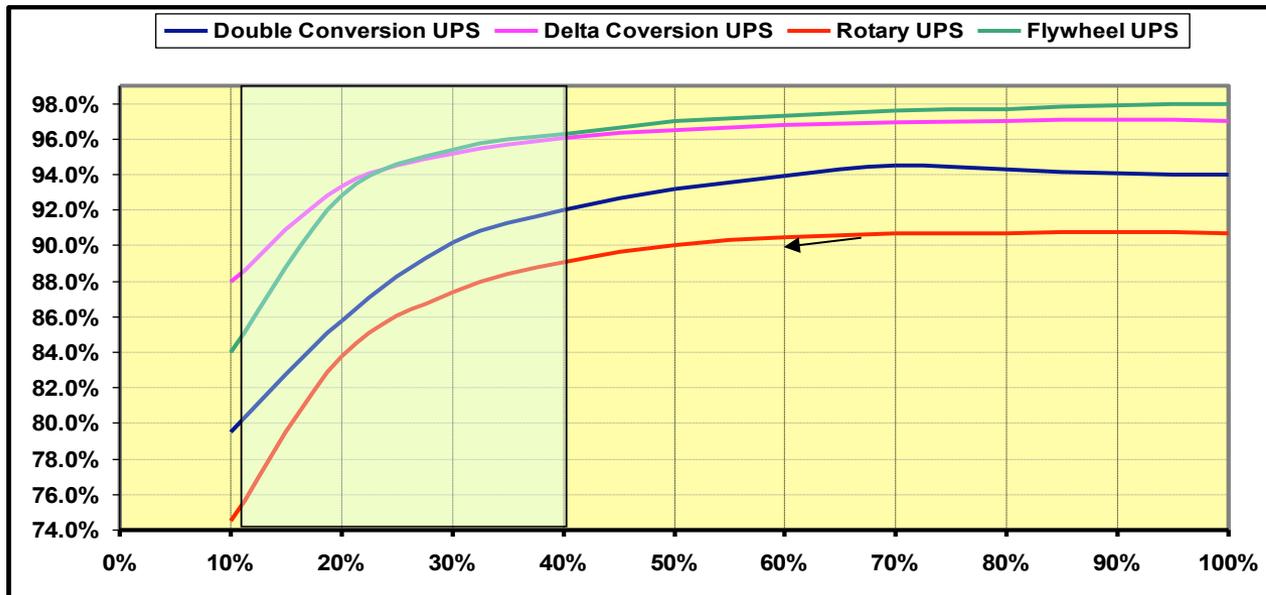
# Measured UPS efficiency

## UPS Efficiency



## Managing UPS load capacity

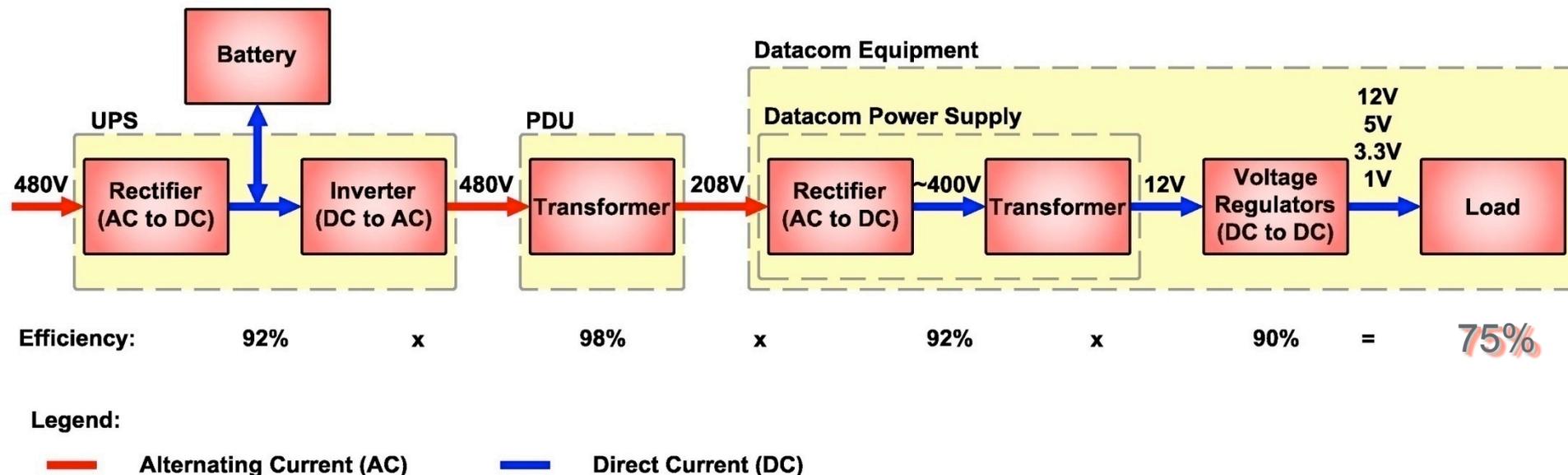
**Example:** 10% difference in UPS efficiency per 1000 kW IT load results in approximately 900 MWhr of Energy saving per year and approx \$400K of energy saving over 5 years.



**Most UPS units in N or N+X configuration operate at 10% to 40% load capacity**

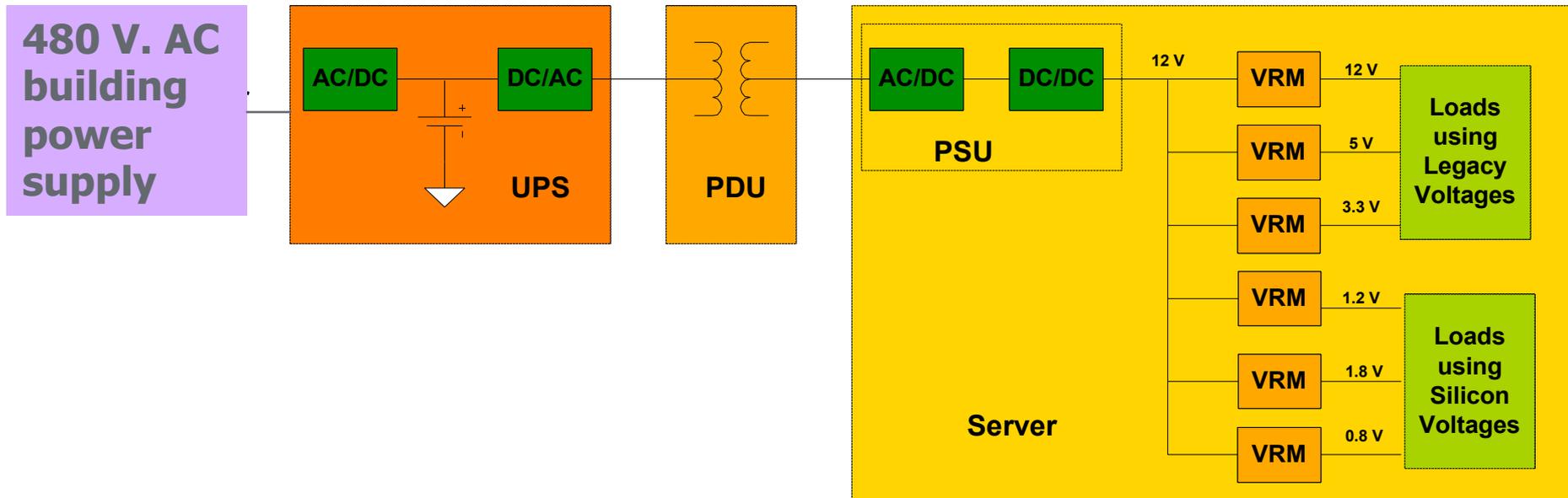
## Losses are compounded as power flows downstream:

- Components in series can dramatically lower the overall efficiency.
- This example shows only three/quarters of the power actually reaches the load.



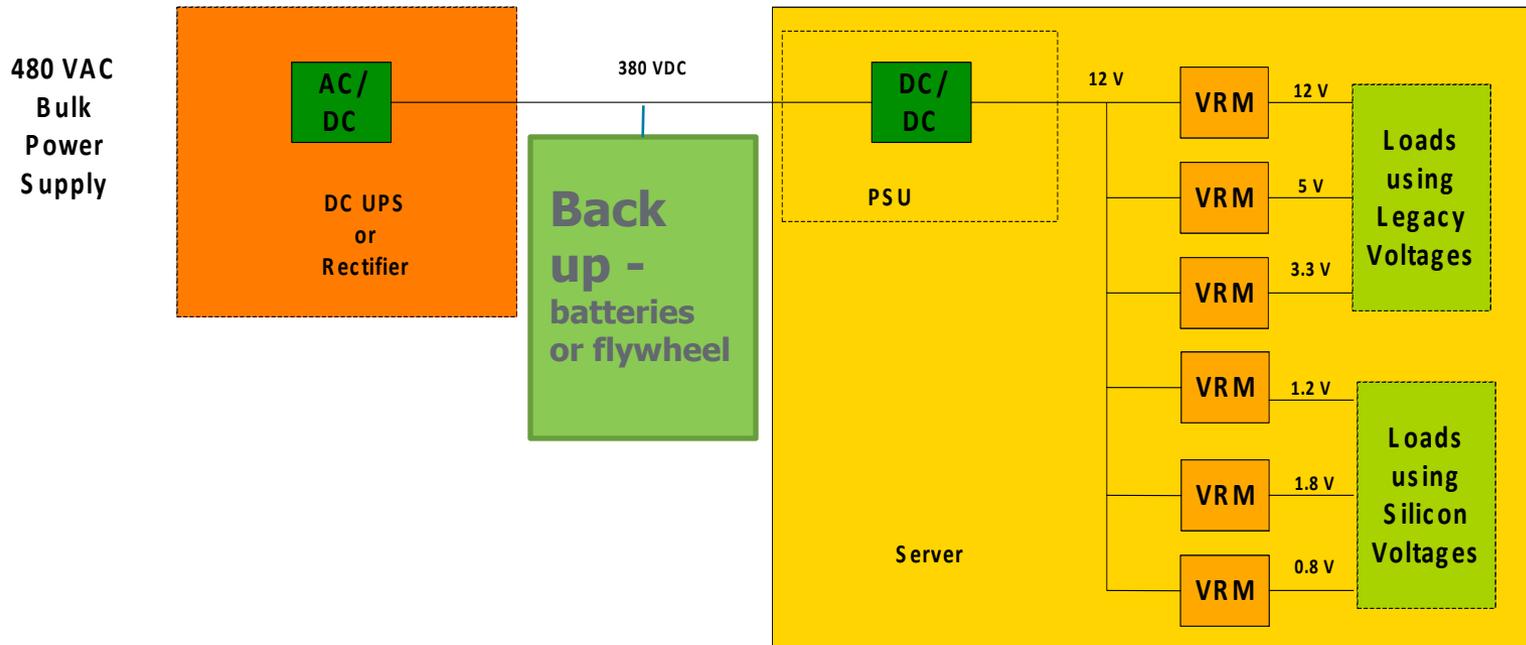
- Understand what redundancy costs and what it gets you – is it worth it?
- Does everything need the same level?
- Different strategies have different energy penalties (e.g.  $2N$  vs.  $N+1$ )
- It's possible to more fully load UPS systems and achieve desired redundancy
- Redundancy in electrical distribution puts you down the efficiency curve

## “Today’s” AC distribution...



## 380V. DC power distribution

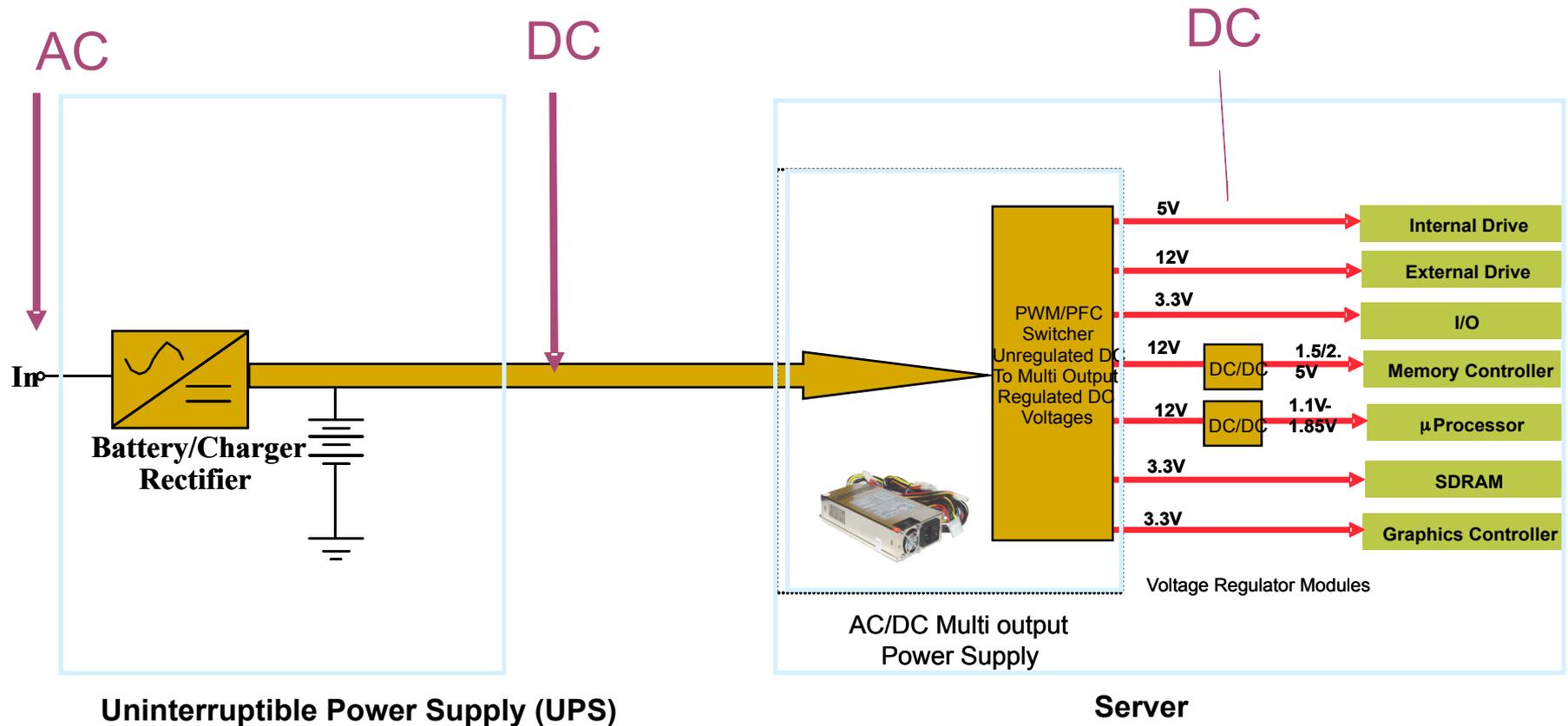
DC power can eliminate several stages of conversion and could be used for lighting, easy tie in of variable speed drives, and renewable energy sources.



# Edison was right...

## 380V DC – (actually 350-400V)

## Eliminates multiple electrical power conversions

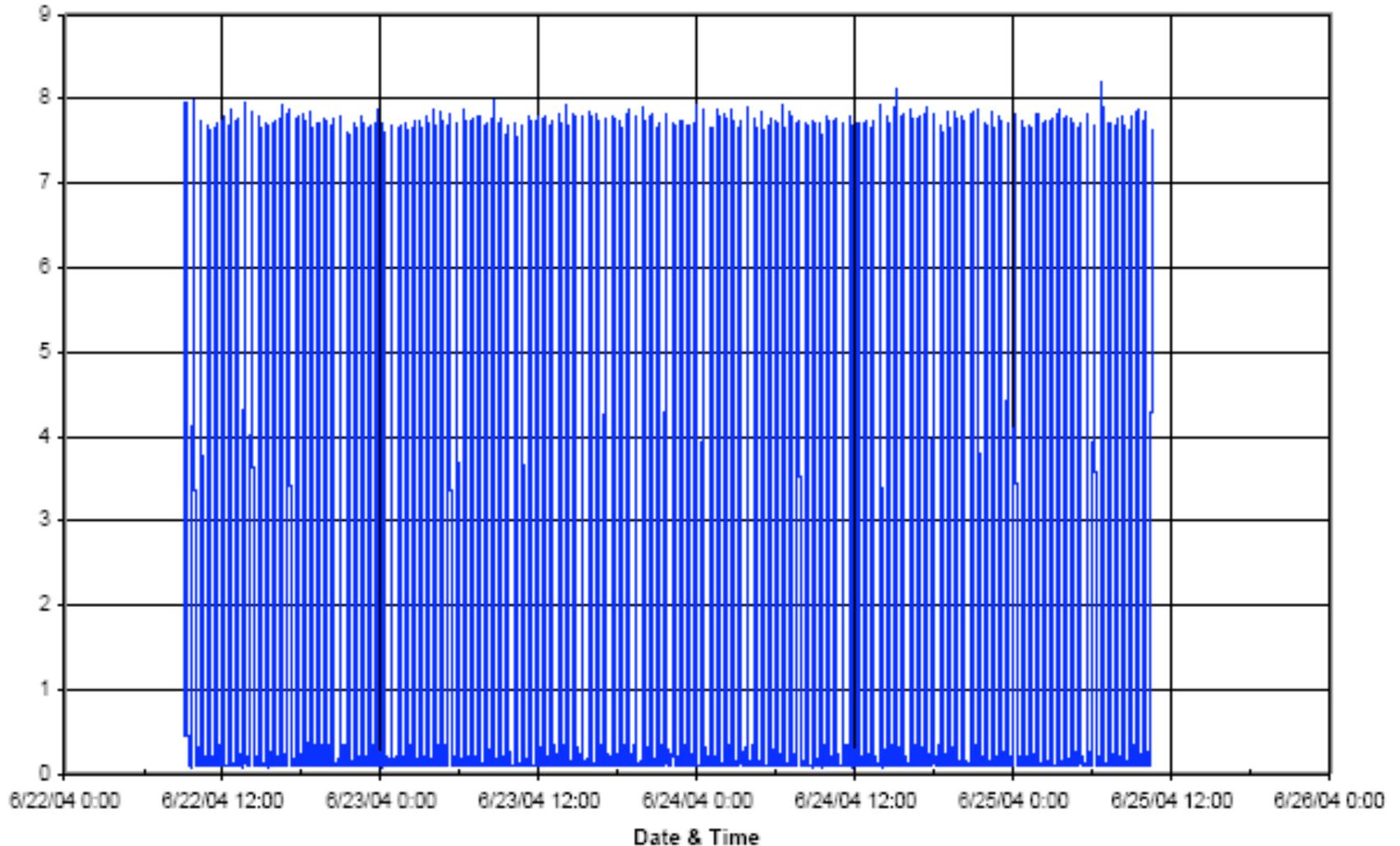


- **Losses**
  - Heaters
  - Battery chargers
  - Transfer switches
  - Fuel management systems
- **Opportunities to reduce or eliminate losses**
- **Heaters (many operating hours) use more electricity than the generator produces (few operating hours)**
  - Check with generator manufacturer on how to reduce the energy consumption of block heaters (e.g. temperature settings and control)
- **Right-sizing of stand-by generation**
- **Consider redundancy options**



# Standby generator heater

Generator Standby Power Loss



- Lights are on and nobody's home
  - Switch off lights in unused/unoccupied areas or rooms (UPS, Battery, S/Gear, etc)
  - Lighting controls such as occupancy sensors are well proven
- Small relative benefit but easy to accomplish – also saves HVAC energy
- Use energy efficient lighting
- Lights should be located over the aisles

- Since most cooling system equipment operates continuously, premium efficiency motors should be specified everywhere
- As mentioned in the cooling sections, variable speed drives should be used
  - Chillers
  - Pumps
  - Air handler fans
  - Cooling tower fans

- **Choose highly efficient components.**
- **Every power conversion (AC-DC, DC-AC, AC-AC, DC-DC) decreases overall efficiency and creates heat.**
- **Efficiency decreases when systems are lightly loaded.**
- **Distributing higher voltage reduces the number of power conversions and reduces capital cost (conductor size is smaller).**
- **Direct Current (DC) systems can reduce conversion losses.**
- **Consider the minimum redundancy required.**

# Questions?



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# Workshop Summary

## Best Practices and Trends

Presented by:  
Geoffrey C. Bell, P.E.  
Dale Sartor, PE



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**



Federal Energy Management Program



1. Measure and Benchmark Energy Use
2. Identify IT Opportunities
3. Use IT to Control IT
4. Manage Airflow
5. Optimize Environmental Conditions
6. Evaluate Cooling Options
7. Improve Electrical Efficiency
8. Implement Energy Efficiency Measures

## 1. Measure and Benchmark Energy Use

- Use metrics to measure efficiency
- Benchmark performance
- Establish continual improvement goals

## 2. Identify IT Opportunities

- Specify efficient servers (incl. power supplies)
- Virtualize
- Refresh IT equipment, and decommission unused equipment.

## 3. Use IT to Control IT Energy

- Evaluate monitoring systems to enhance real-time management and efficiency.
- Use visualization tools (e.g. thermal maps).
- Install dashboards to manage and sustain energy efficiency.

## 4. Manage Airflow

- Implement hot and cold aisles
- Fix leaks
  - Use blanking plates and panels.
  - Consolidate and seal cable penetrations.
- Manage floor tiles
  - Eliminate floor openings in hot aisles.
  - Evaluate tile perforations and balancing.
  - Match under-floor airflow to IT equipment needs.
- Isolate hot and cold airstreams.
  - Optimize airflow with return air plenum.

## 5. Optimize Environmental Conditions

- Follow ASHRAE guidelines or manufacturer specifications
- Operate to maximum ASHRAE recommended range.
- Anticipate servers to occasionally operate in allowable range.
- Minimize or eliminate humidity control

## 6. Evaluate Cooling Options

- Use centralized cooling system
- Maximize central cooling plant efficiency
- Provide liquid-based heat removal
- Compressorless cooling
  - Install integrated water-side economizer
  - Implement outside air economizer

## 7. Improve Electrical Efficiency

- Select efficient UPS systems and topography
- Examine redundancy levels
- Increase voltage distribution and reduce conversions
- Control or eliminate standby generator block heaters
- Lighting controls

## 8. Implement Standard Energy Efficiency Measures

- Install premium efficiency motors
- Use occupancy sensors to control lighting.
- Upgrade building automation control system
  - Integrate CRAC controls
- Variable speed everywhere
- Optimize cooling tower efficiency

***Most importantly...***

Get IT and Facilities People  
Talking and working  
together as a team!!!

- Document Design intent, commission, and provide training
- Set and track performance goals
- Use life-cycle total cost of ownership analysis
- Design for variable loads
- Design for hot and cold isolation and warmer operation
- Design for outside air economizer and warm liquid cooling
- Consider redundancy in the network rather than in the data center
- Use DC power to servers and higher voltage AC
- Reuse server waste-heat
- Minimize lighting during unoccupied periods
- Evaluate alternative data center locations
- Consider clean on-site power

- **Virtualize server operations [power-down unused servers]**
- **Implement hot and cold aisles and good air management**
  - **Seal air leaks [esp. within racks and around cabling]**
  - **Install blanking plates**
- **Increase room set-point temperature**
- **Coordinate existing CRAC/CRAH operations**
- **Eliminate reheat and humidification**
- **Install variable speed supply fans**
- **Maintenance (eat your spinach)**
  - **Hot and cold separation – e.g. blanking panels and cable penetrations**
  - **CRAC units (and all mechanical systems)**
  - **Controls (incl. sensor calibration)**

# Questions?



## Contact Information...



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